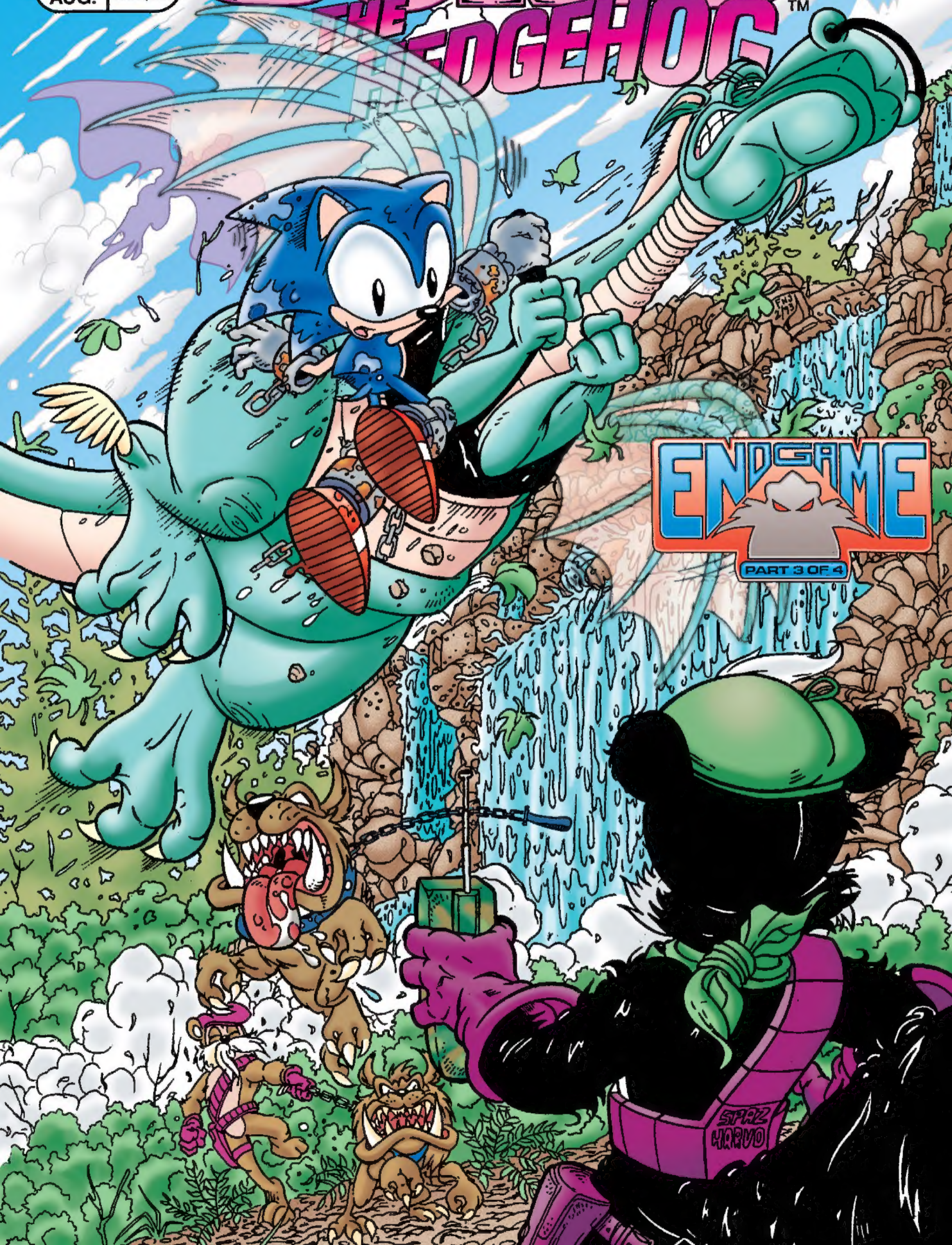


Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO. 49 US \$1.50
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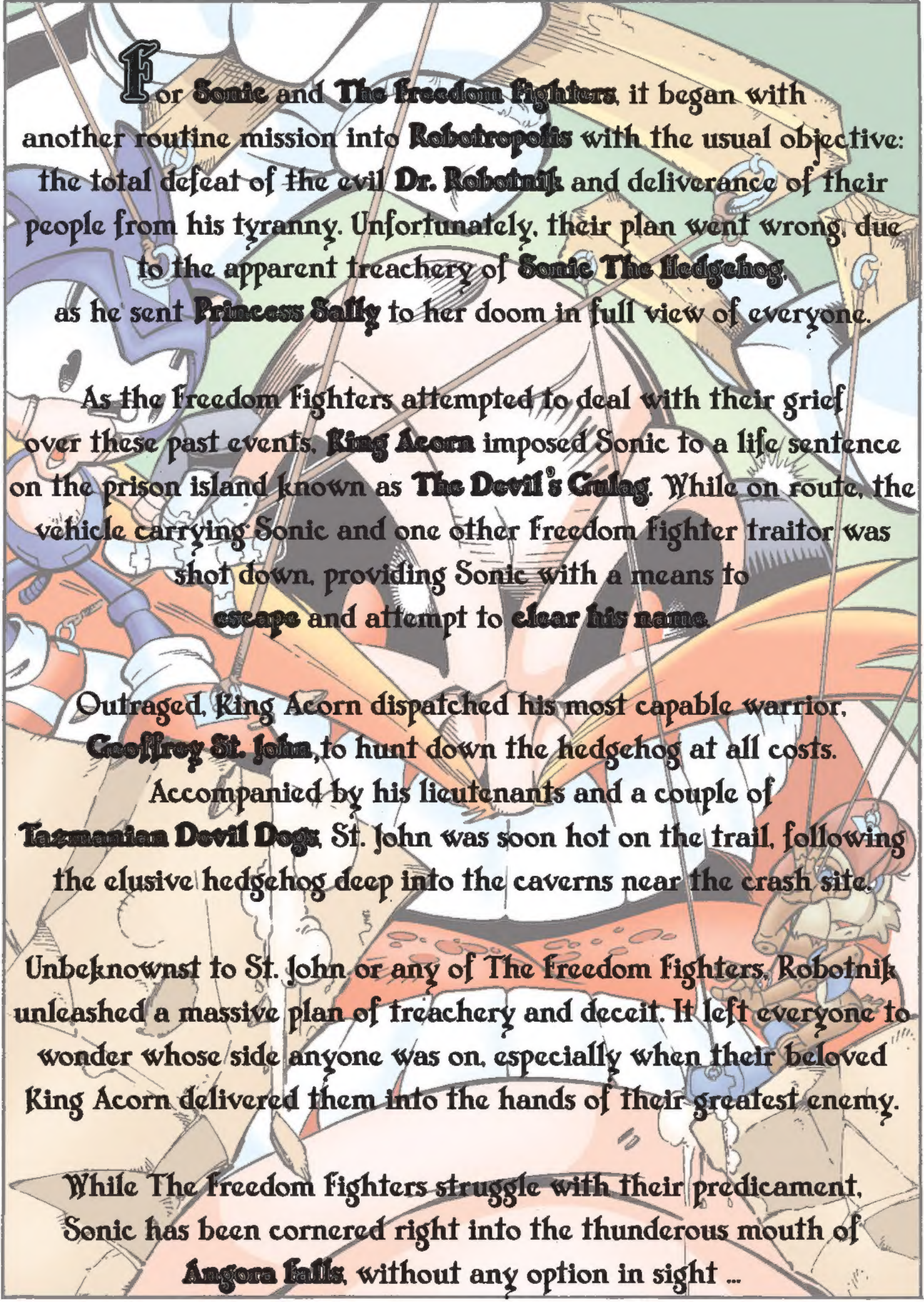
SONIC

THE EDGEHOG™



ENDGAME
PART 3 OF 4

SPR2
MARVO



For **Sonic** and **The Freedom Fighters**, it began with another routine mission into **Robotropolis** with the usual objective: the total defeat of the evil **Dr. Robotnik** and deliverance of their people from his tyranny. Unfortunately, their plan went wrong, due to the apparent treachery of **Sonic The Hedgehog**, as he sent **Princess Sally** to her doom in full view of everyone.

As the Freedom Fighters attempted to deal with their grief over these past events, **King Acorn** imposed Sonic to a life sentence on the prison island known as **The Devil's Gulag**. While on route, the vehicle carrying Sonic and one other Freedom fighter traitor was shot down, providing Sonic with a means to **escape** and attempt to **clear his name**.

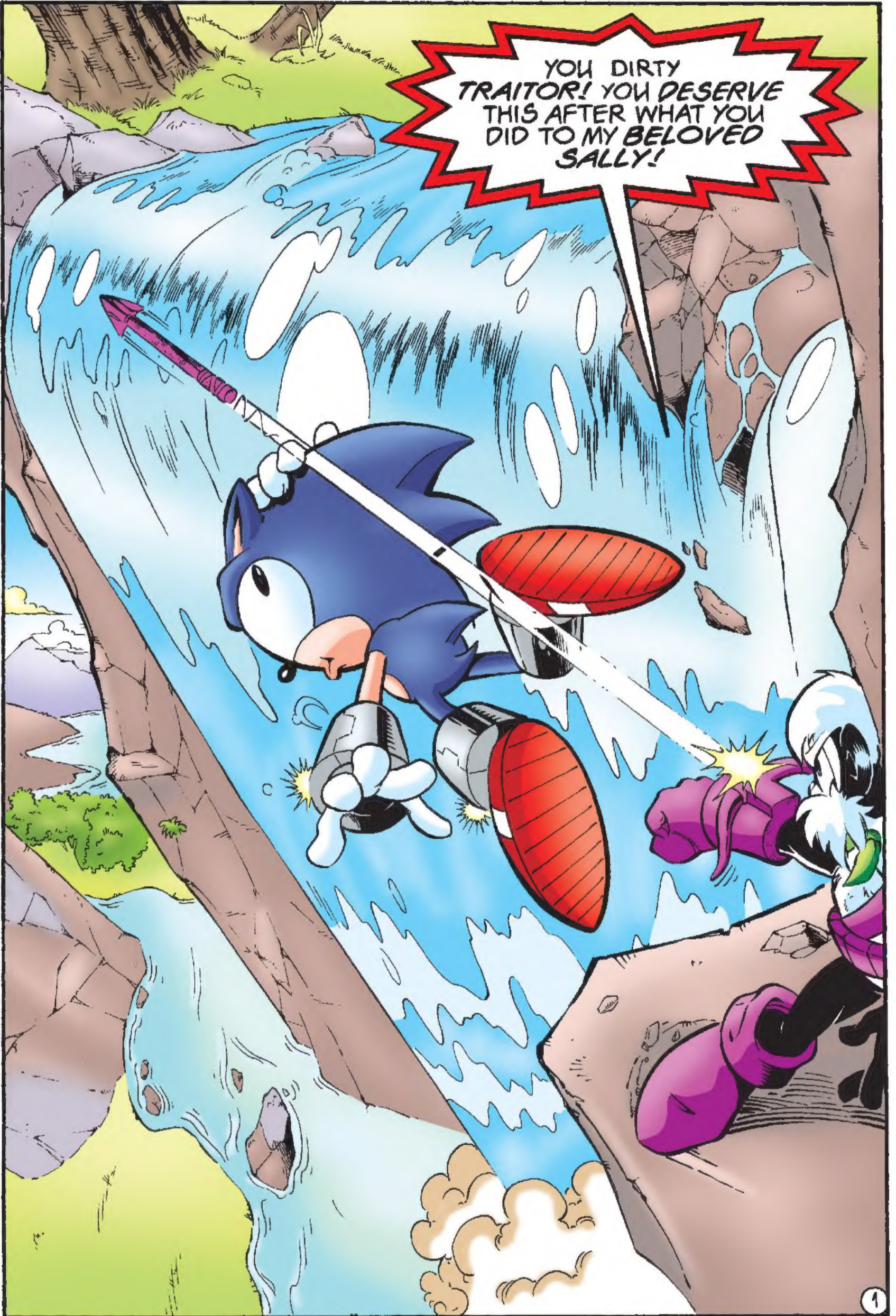
Outraged, King Acorn dispatched his most capable warrior, **Geoffrey St. John**, to hunt down the hedgehog at all costs.

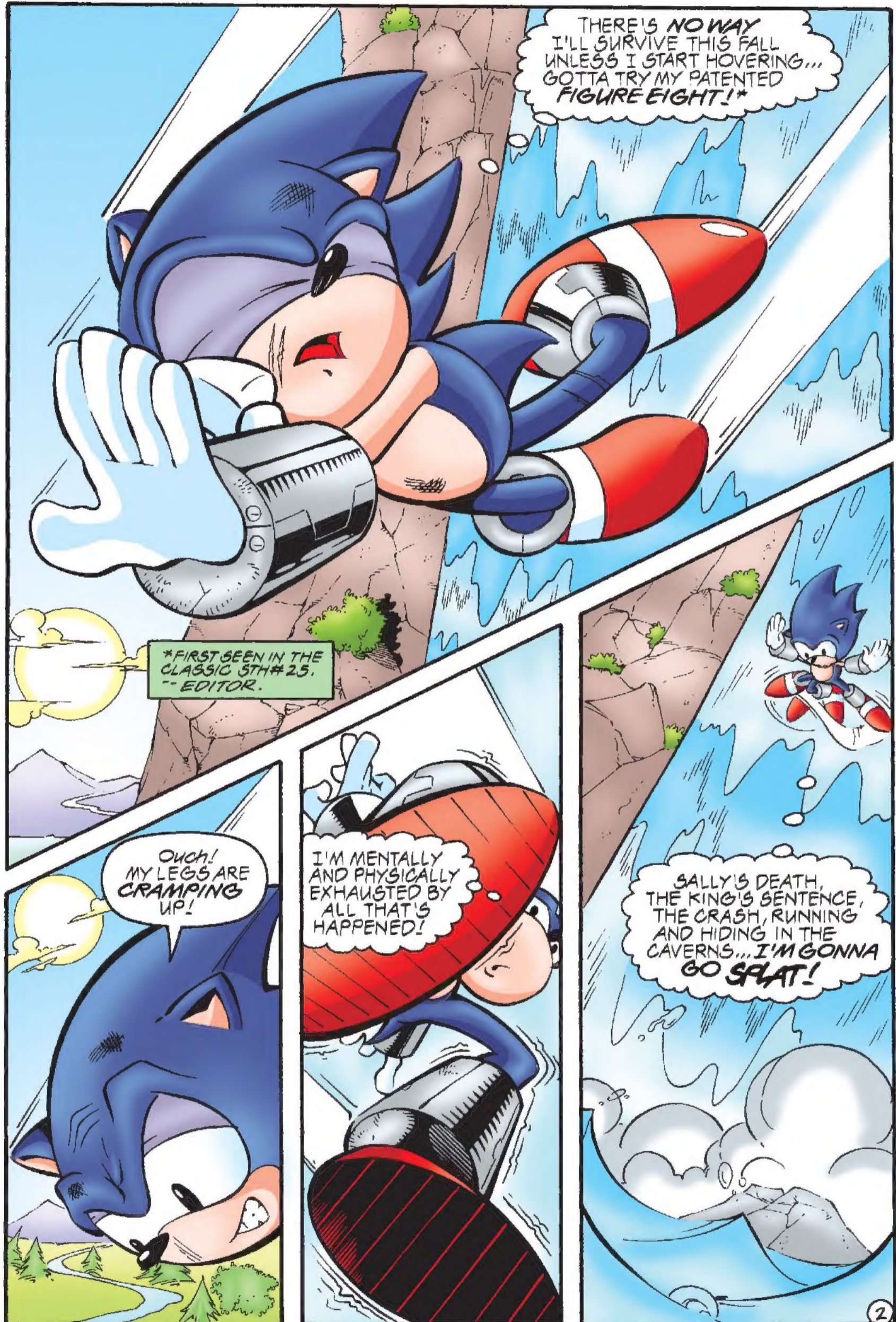
Accompanied by his lieutenants and a couple of **Tazmanian Devil Dogs**, St. John was soon hot on the trail, following the elusive hedgehog deep into the caverns near the crash site.

Unbeknownst to St. John or any of The Freedom Fighters, Robotnik unleashed a massive plan of treachery and deceit. It left everyone to wonder whose side anyone was on, especially when their beloved King Acorn delivered them into the hands of their greatest enemy.

While The Freedom Fighters struggle with their predicament, Sonic has been cornered right into the thunderous mouth of **Angora Falls**, without any option in sight ...

YOU DIRTY
TRAITOR! YOU DESERVE
THIS AFTER WHAT YOU
DID TO MY BELOVED
SALLY!





THERE'S **NO WAY** I'LL SURVIVE THIS FALL UNLESS I START HOVERING... GOTTA TRY MY PATENTED **FIGURE EIGHT!***

*FIRST SEEN IN THE CLASSIC 5TH#25, -- EDITOR.

OUCH! MY LEGS ARE **CRAMPING UP!**

I'M MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY EXHAUSTED BY ALL THAT'S HAPPENED!

SALLY'S DEATH, THE KING'S SENTENCE, THE CRASH, RUNNING AND HIDING IN THE CAVERNS... I'M GONNA **GO SPLAT!**



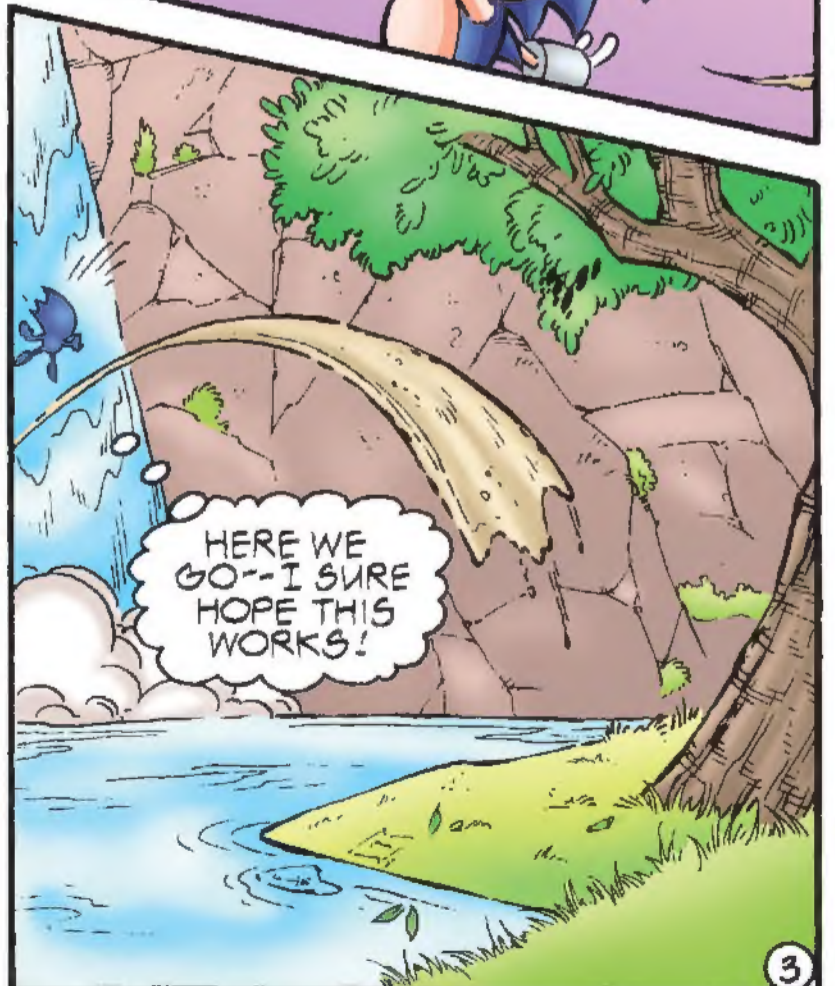
I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TRY THIS TRICK FOR A WHILE NOW!!!



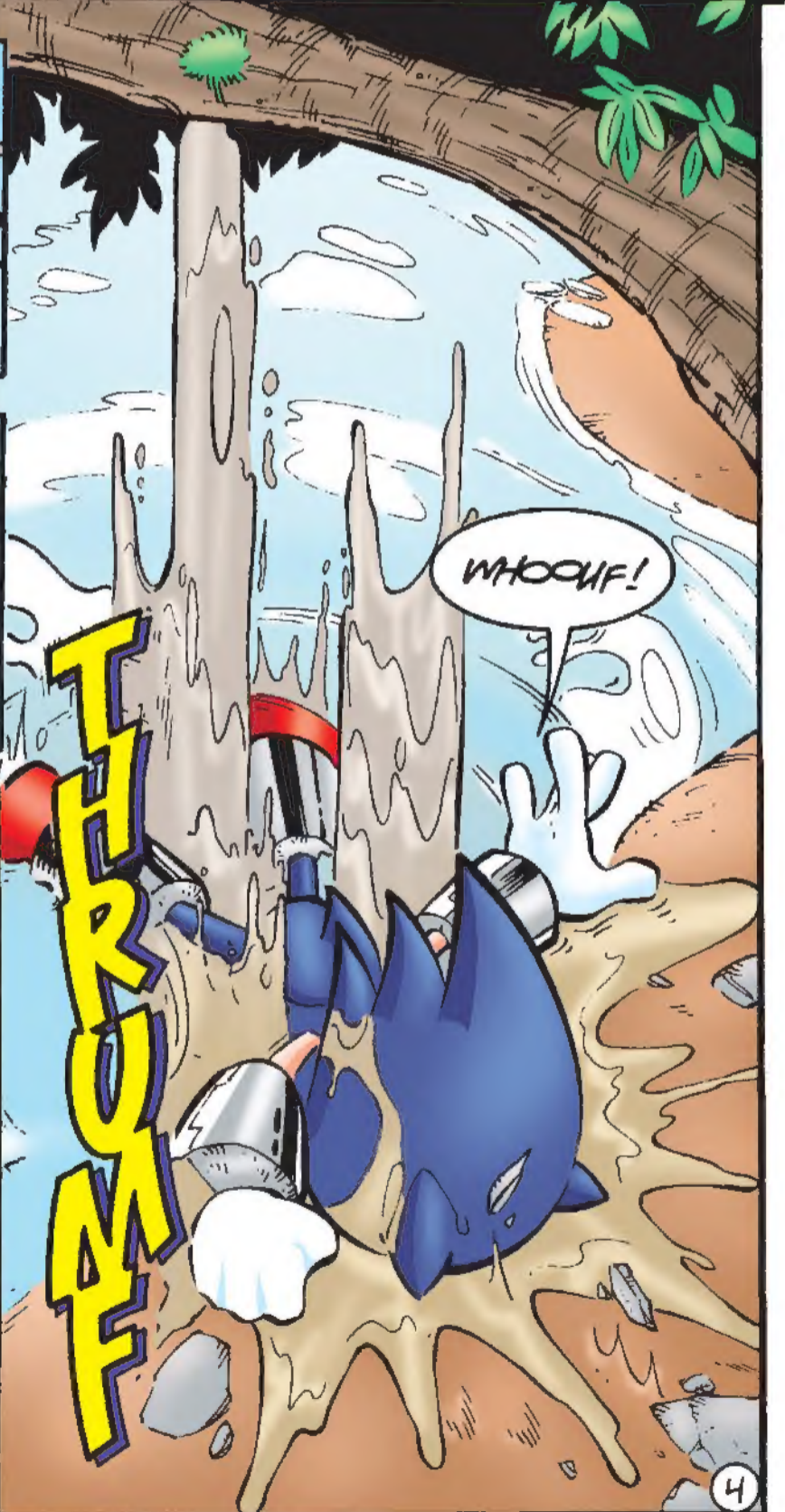
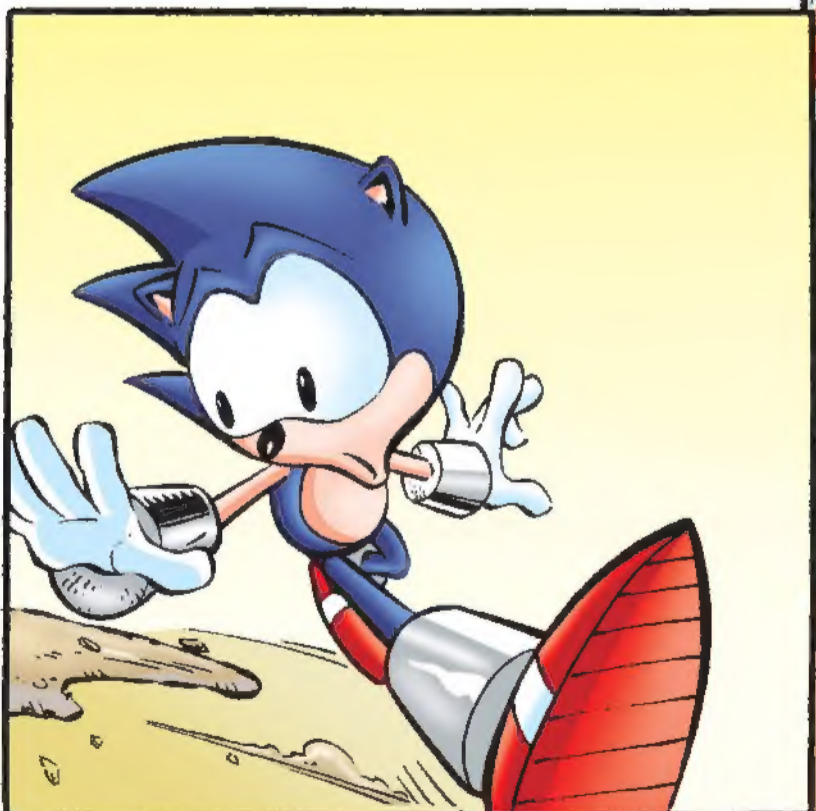
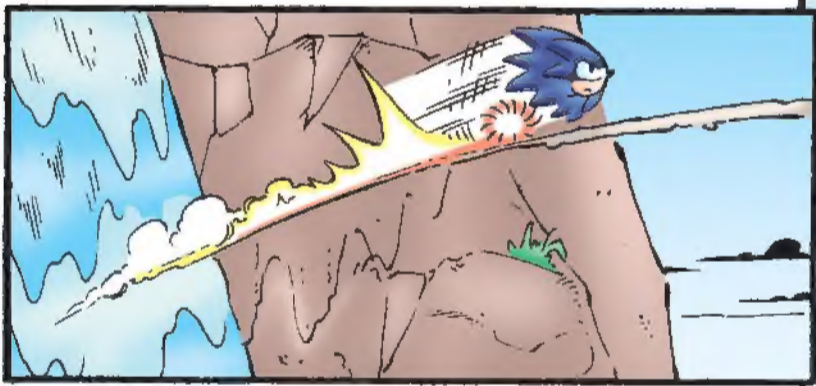
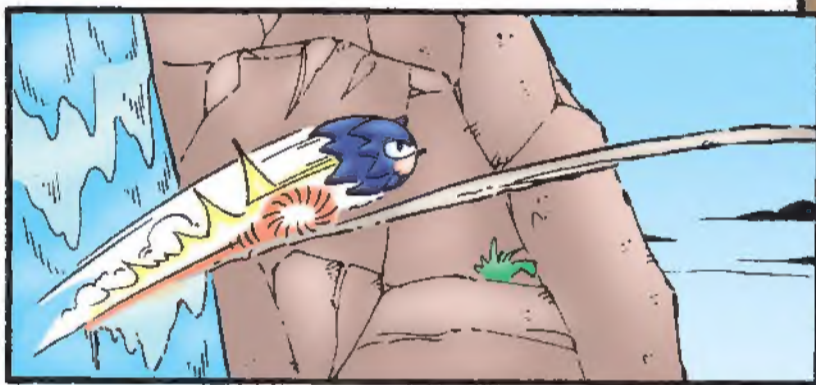
...ALTHOUGH I WOULD'VE PREFERRED LESS DRAMATIC CONDITIONS!



UNNGH!



HERE WE GO-- I SURE HOPE THIS WORKS!





Slump! Muh-must R-REST...

Harumph!

Gasp! Wheeze!

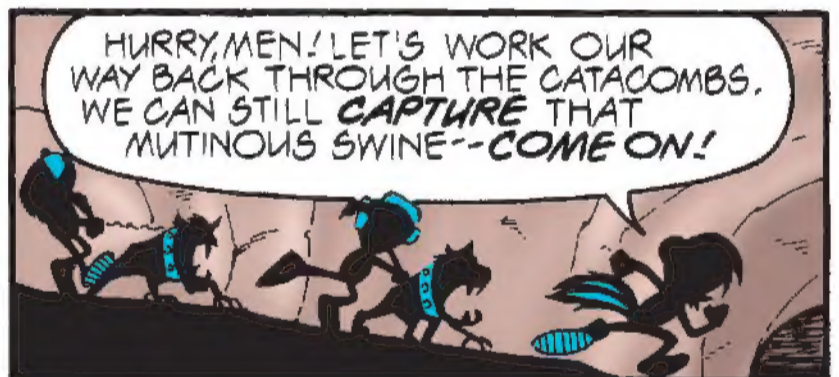
WHAT HAPPENED?

SONIC ESCAPED... TEMPORARILY!

GROWWR! SNARL!



HE'S DOWN THERE... ON THE RIVERBANK!



HURRY MEN! LET'S WORK OUR WAY BACK THROUGH THE CATACOMBS. WE CAN STILL CAPTURE THAT MUTINOUS SWINE--COME ON!



GOTTA KEEP GOING... HAVE TO-- ESCAPE TO PROVE-- INNOCENCE...

GOTTA GET BACK TO...

--"KNOTHOLE!"

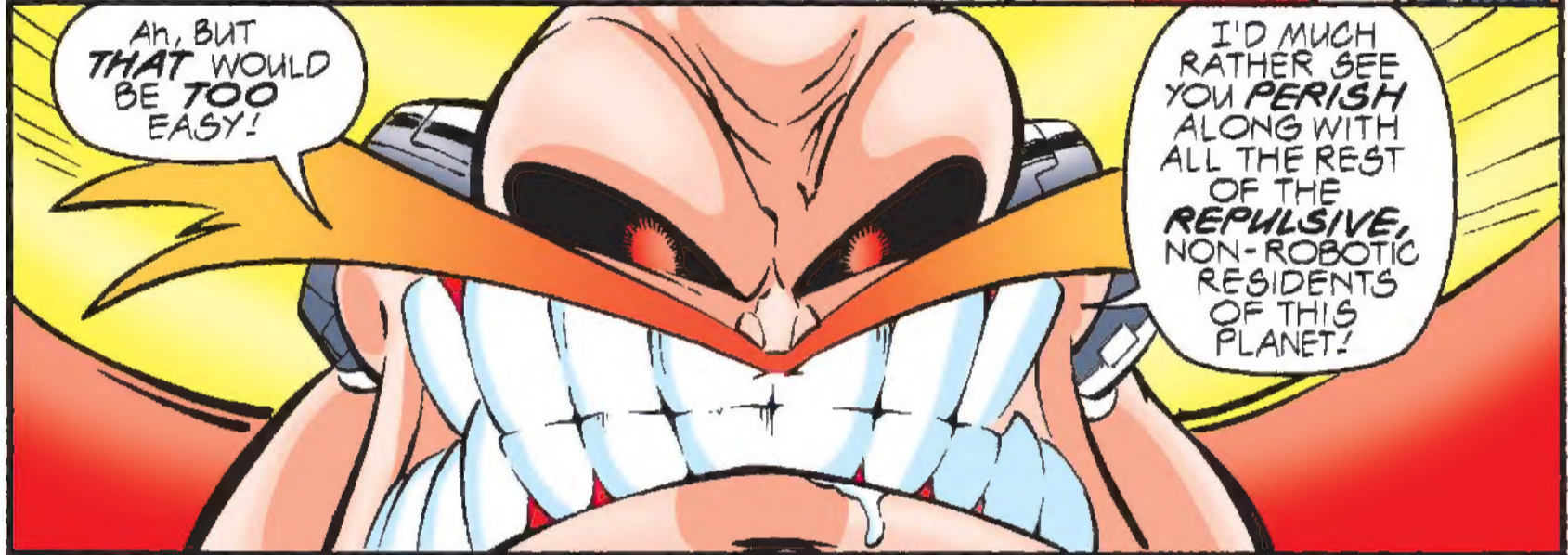
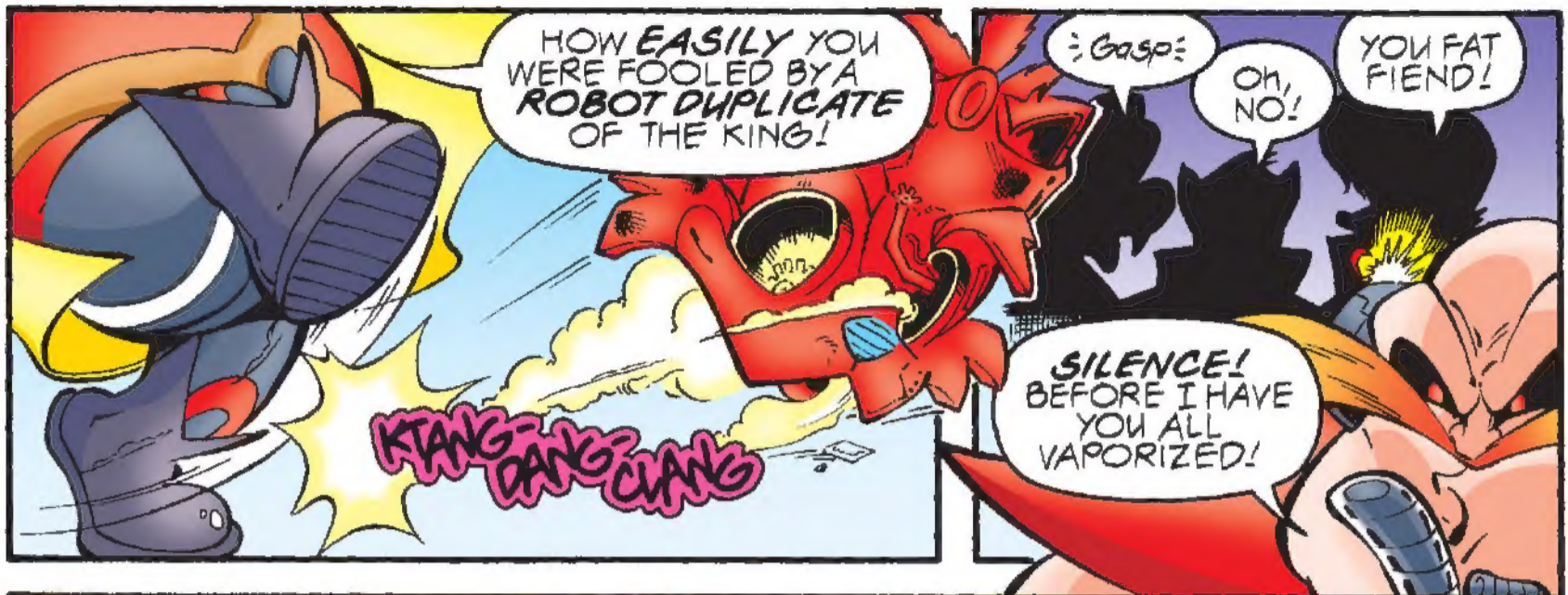
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

HAS INDEED BETRAYED
YOU!

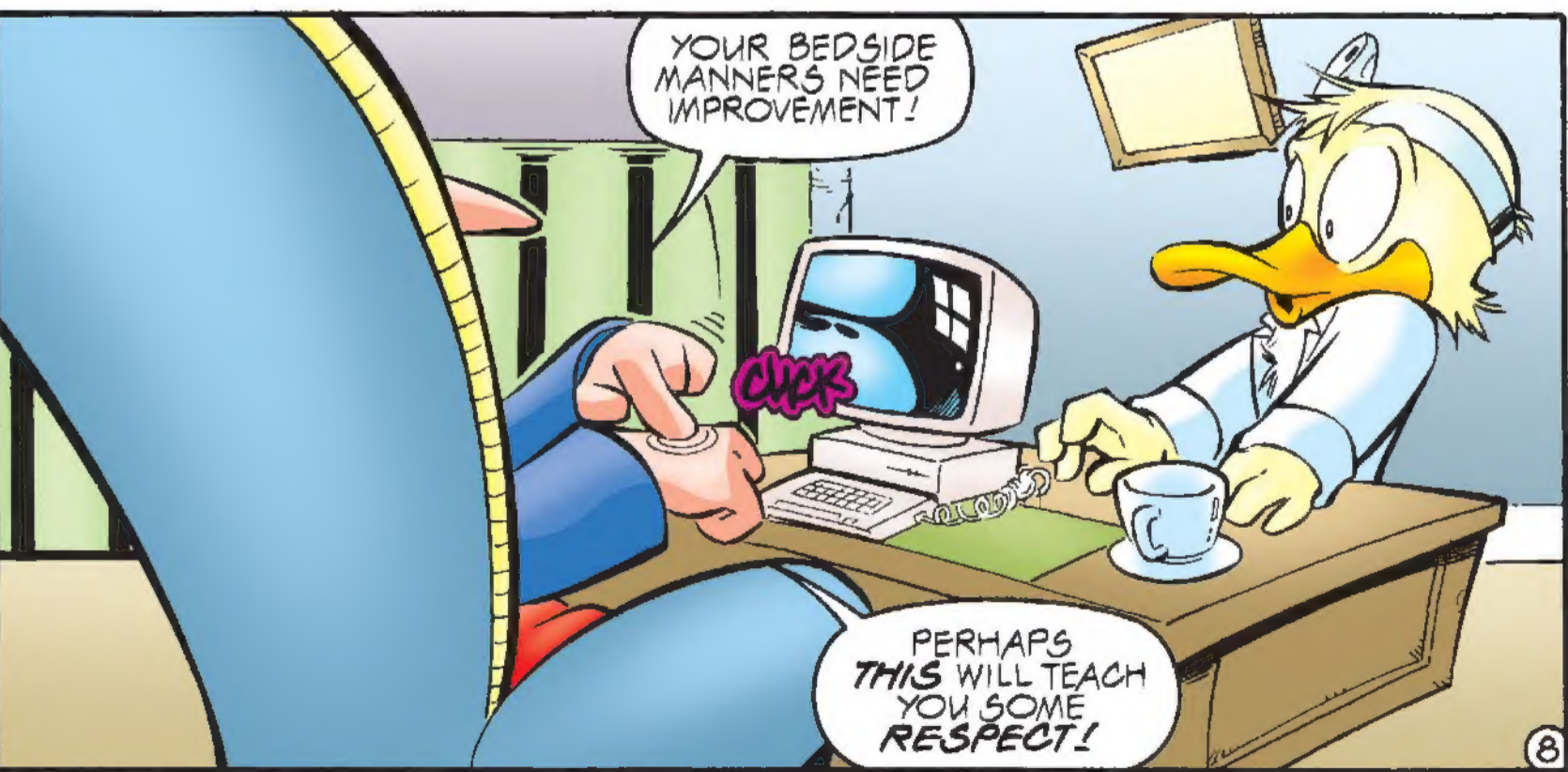
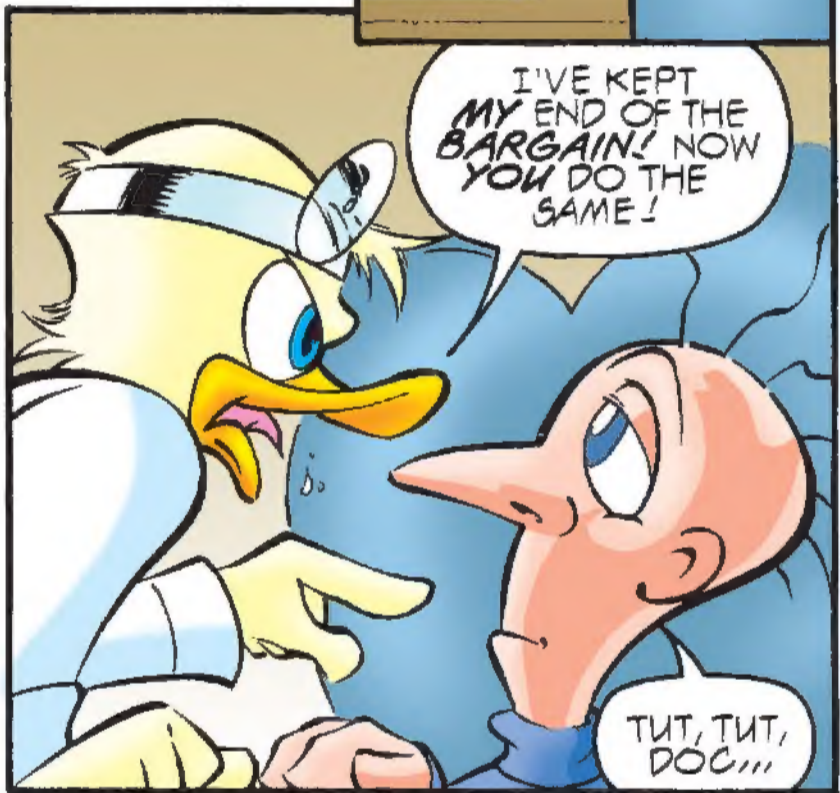
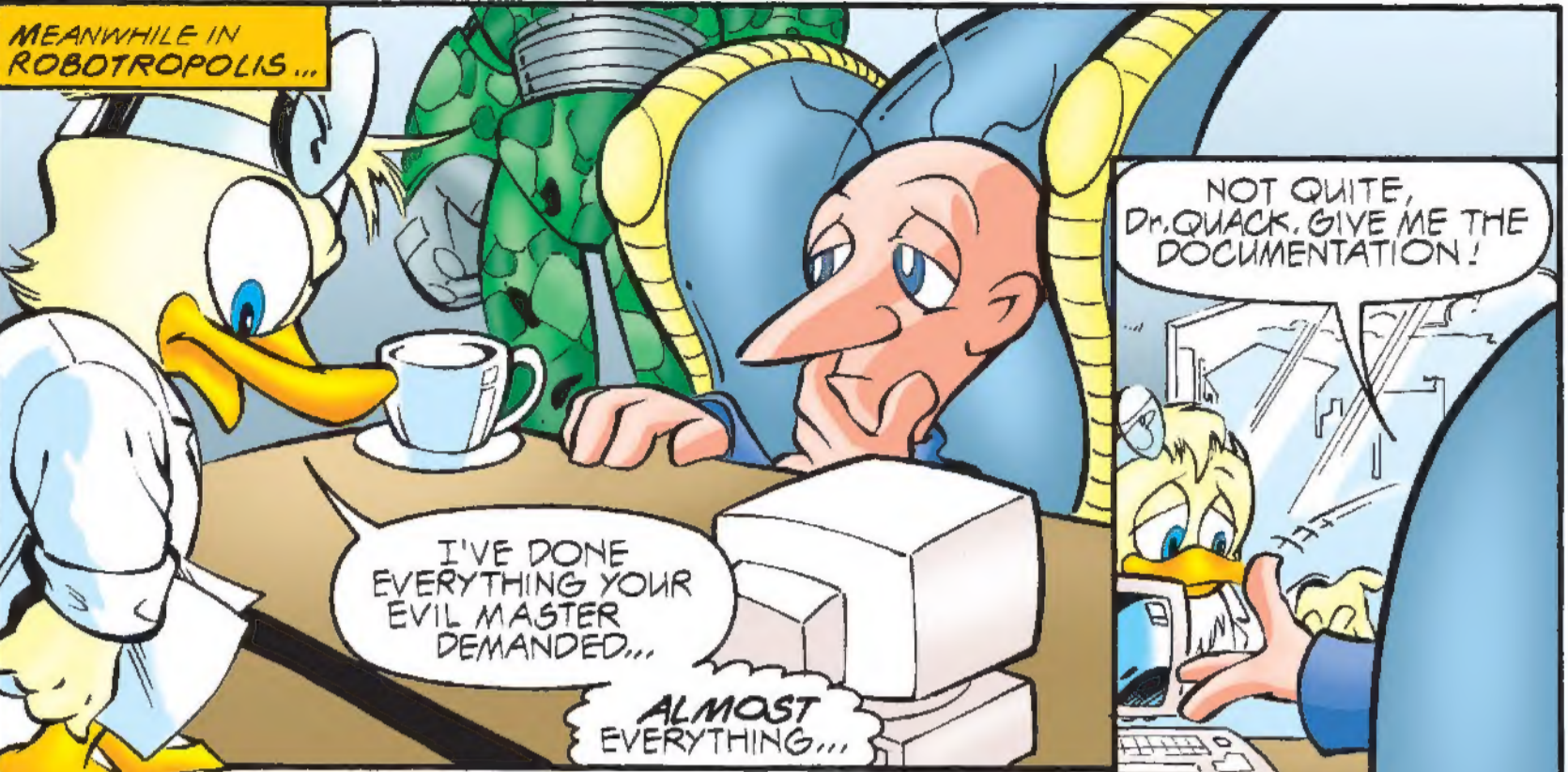
BUT DESPITE
WHAT YOU'RE ALL
THINKING, KING
ACORN HAS
NOT!

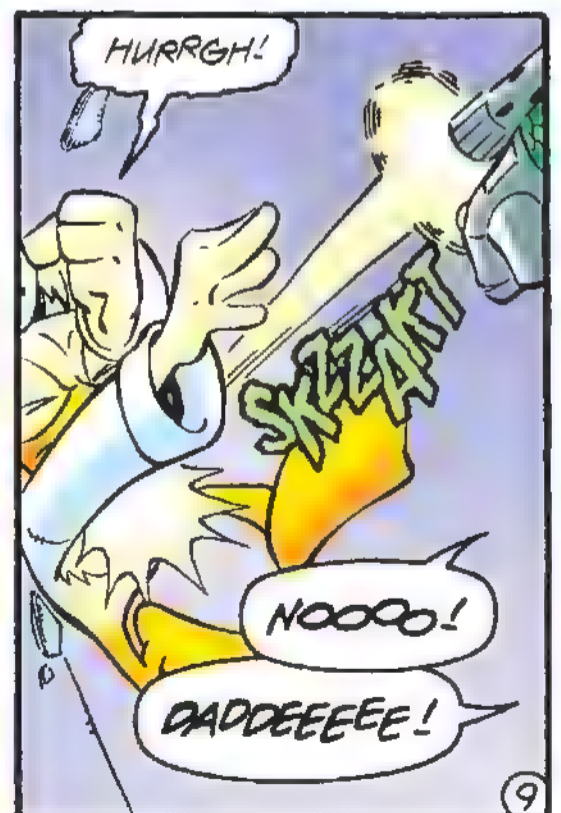
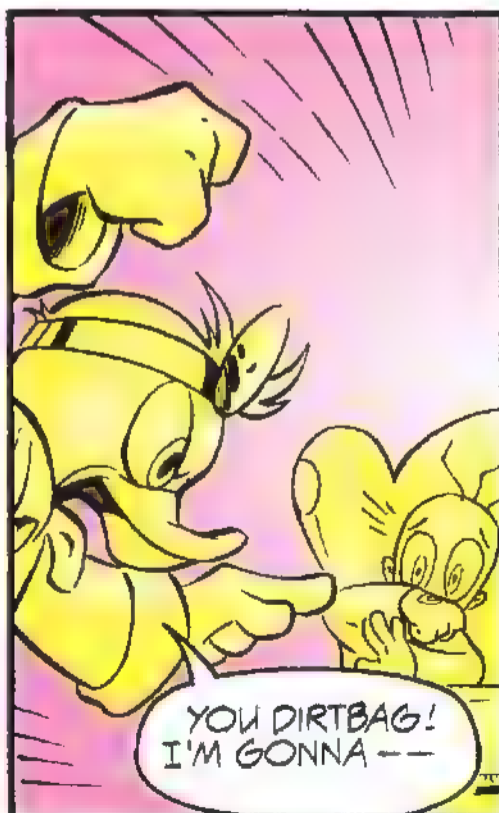
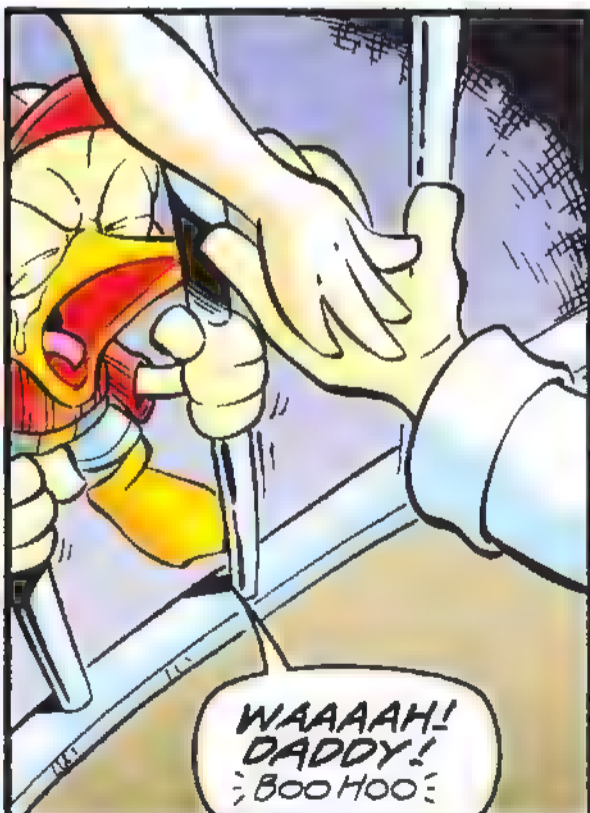
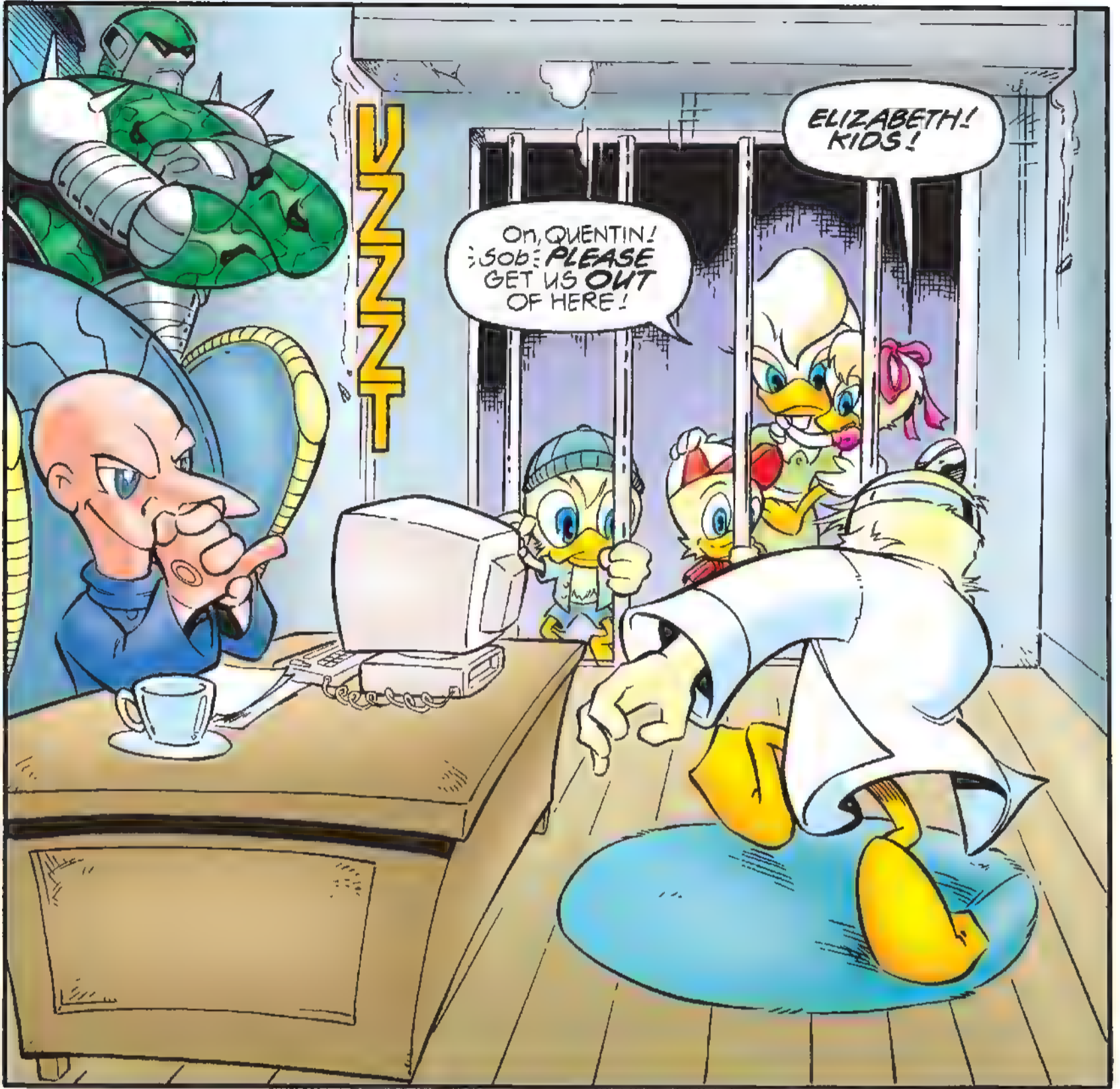
FOR THIS IS
ANYTHING *BUT*
YOUR BELOVED
SOVEREIGN...

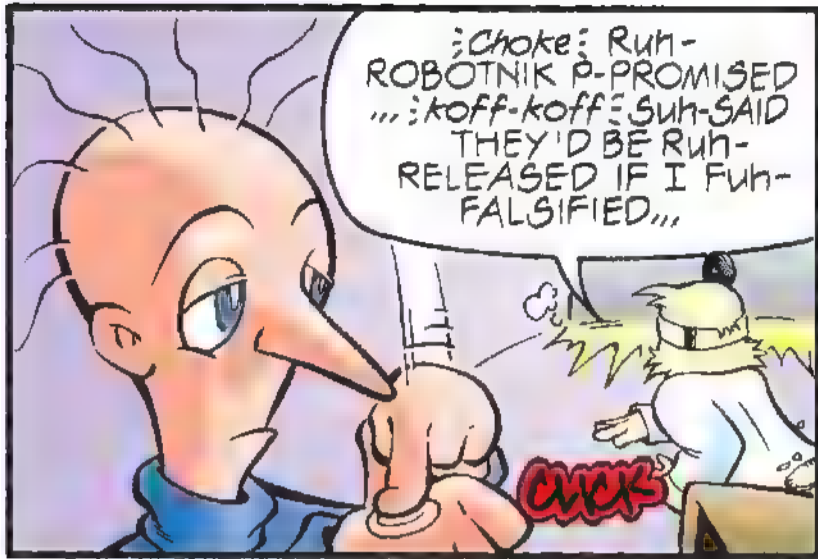




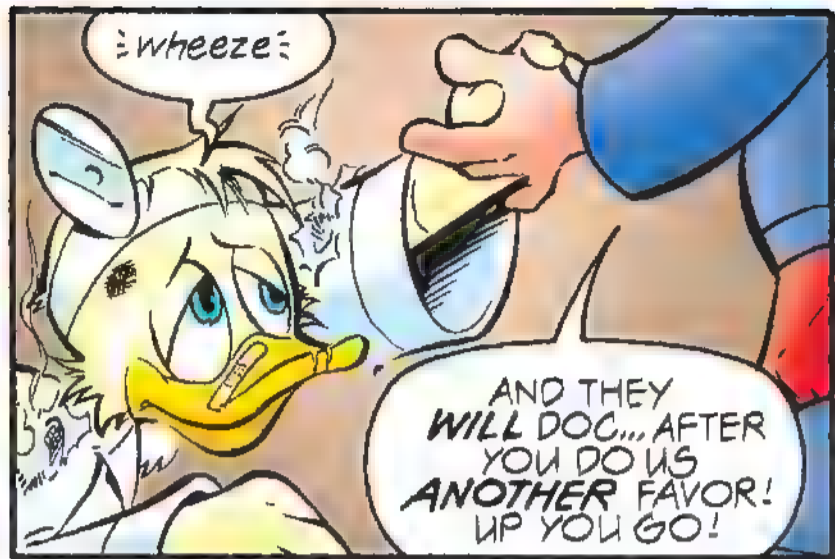
MEANWHILE IN
ROBOTROPOLIS...





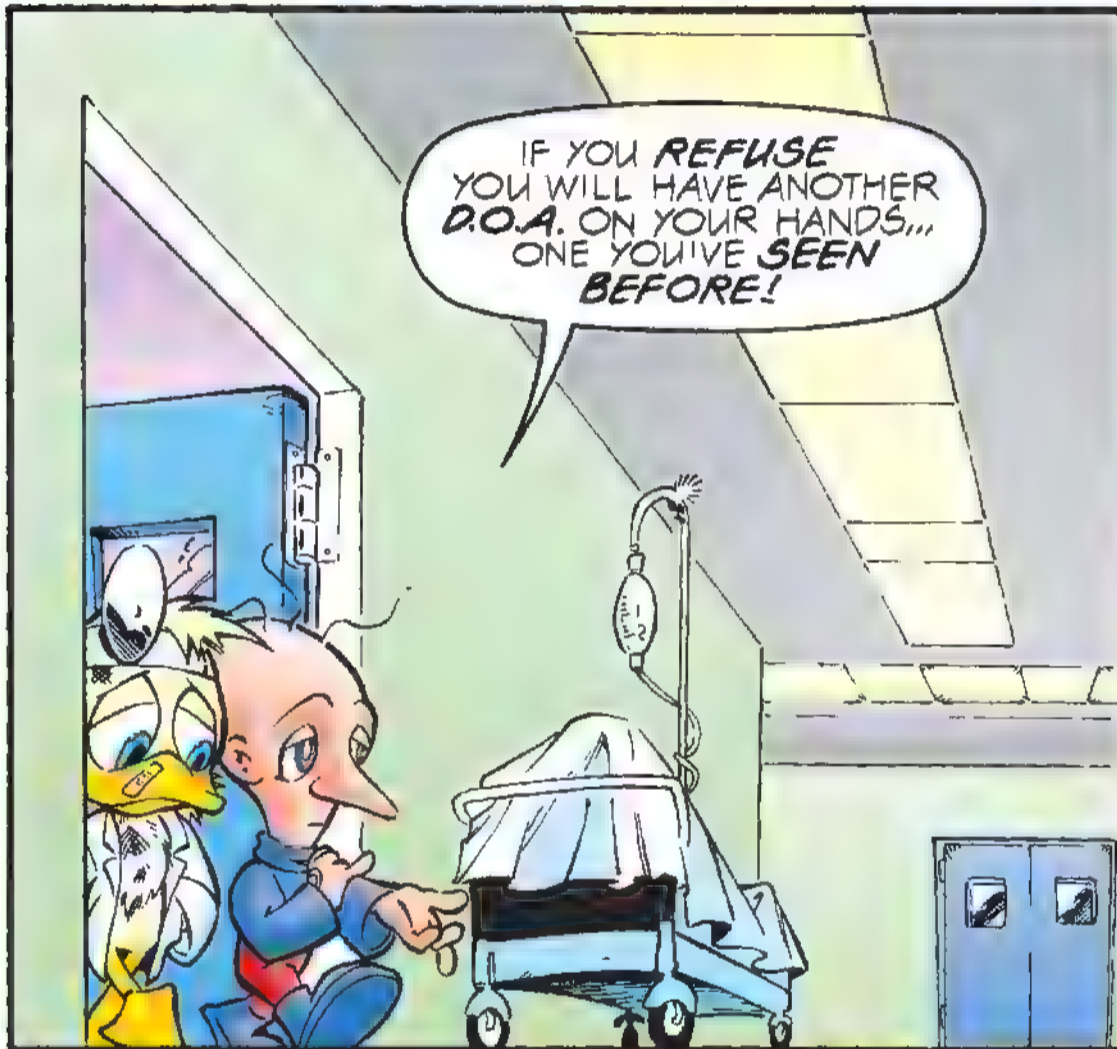


⋮choke⋮ Ruh-ROBOTNIK P-PROMISED ... ⋮koff-koff⋮ Suh-Said THEY'D BE Ruh-RELEASED IF I Fuh-FALSIFIED...



⋮wheeze⋮

AND THEY WILL DOC... AFTER YOU DO US ANOTHER FAVOR! UP YOU GO!

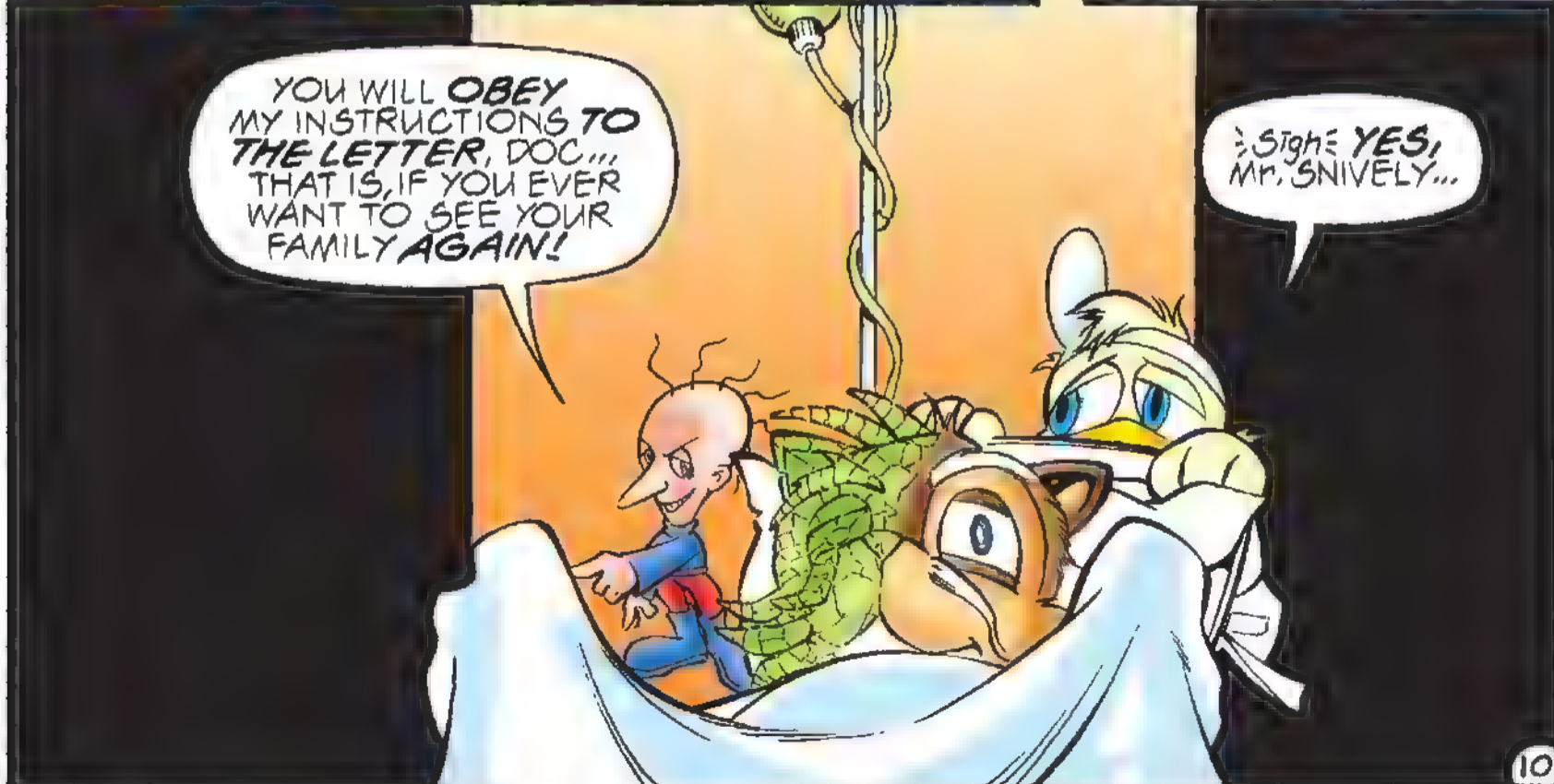


IF YOU REFUSE YOU WILL HAVE ANOTHER D.O.A. ON YOUR HANDS... ONE YOU'VE SEEN BEFORE!



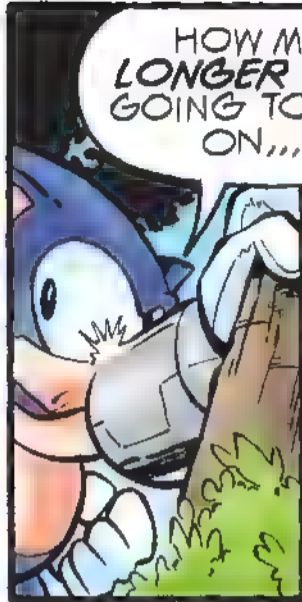
YOU REMEMBER OLD **STONEFACE** HERE, DON'T YOU?

⋮Gasp⋮ **THE KING!**



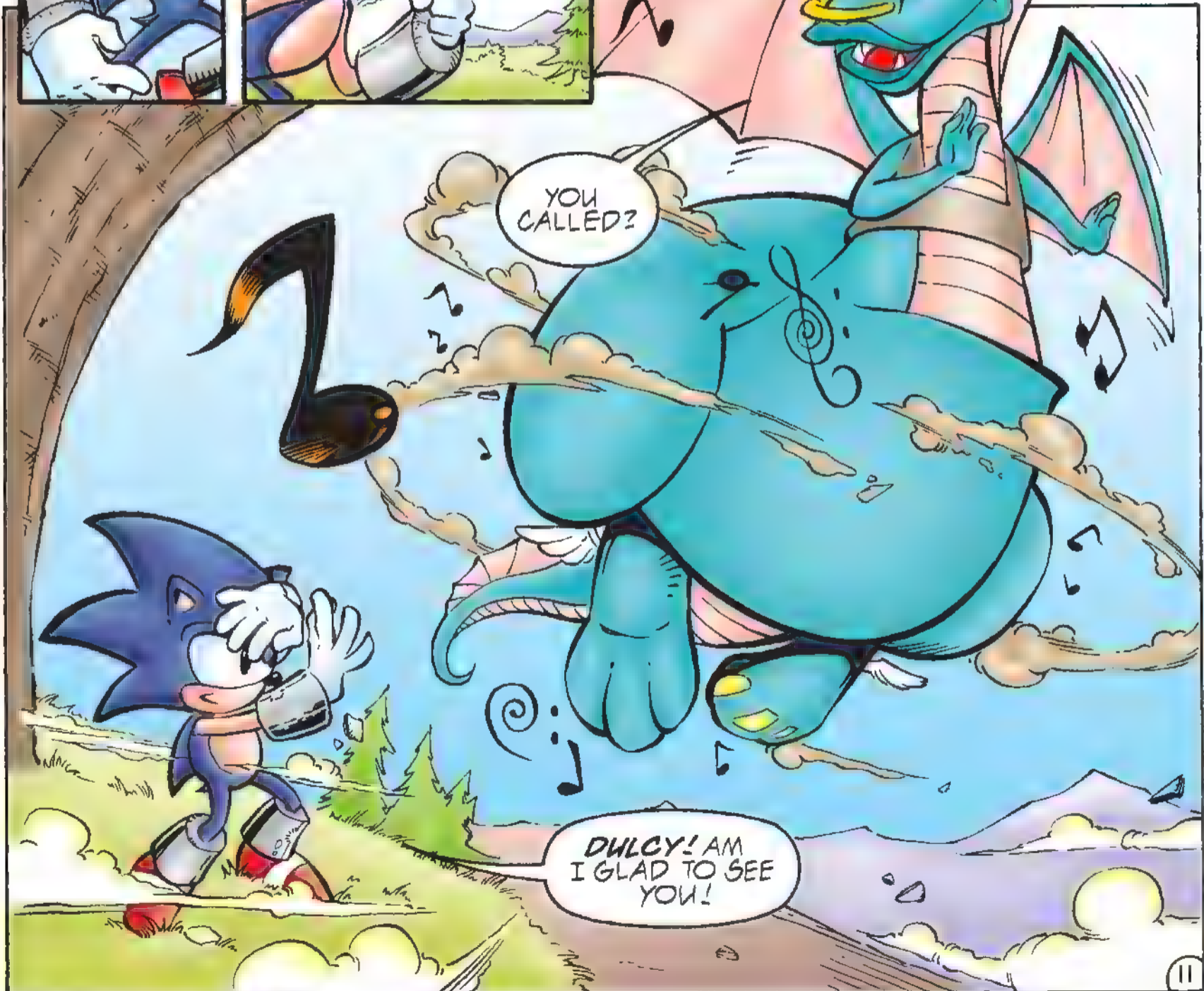
YOU WILL OBEY MY INSTRUCTIONS TO THE LETTER, DOC... THAT IS, IF YOU EVER WANT TO SEE YOUR FAMILY AGAIN!

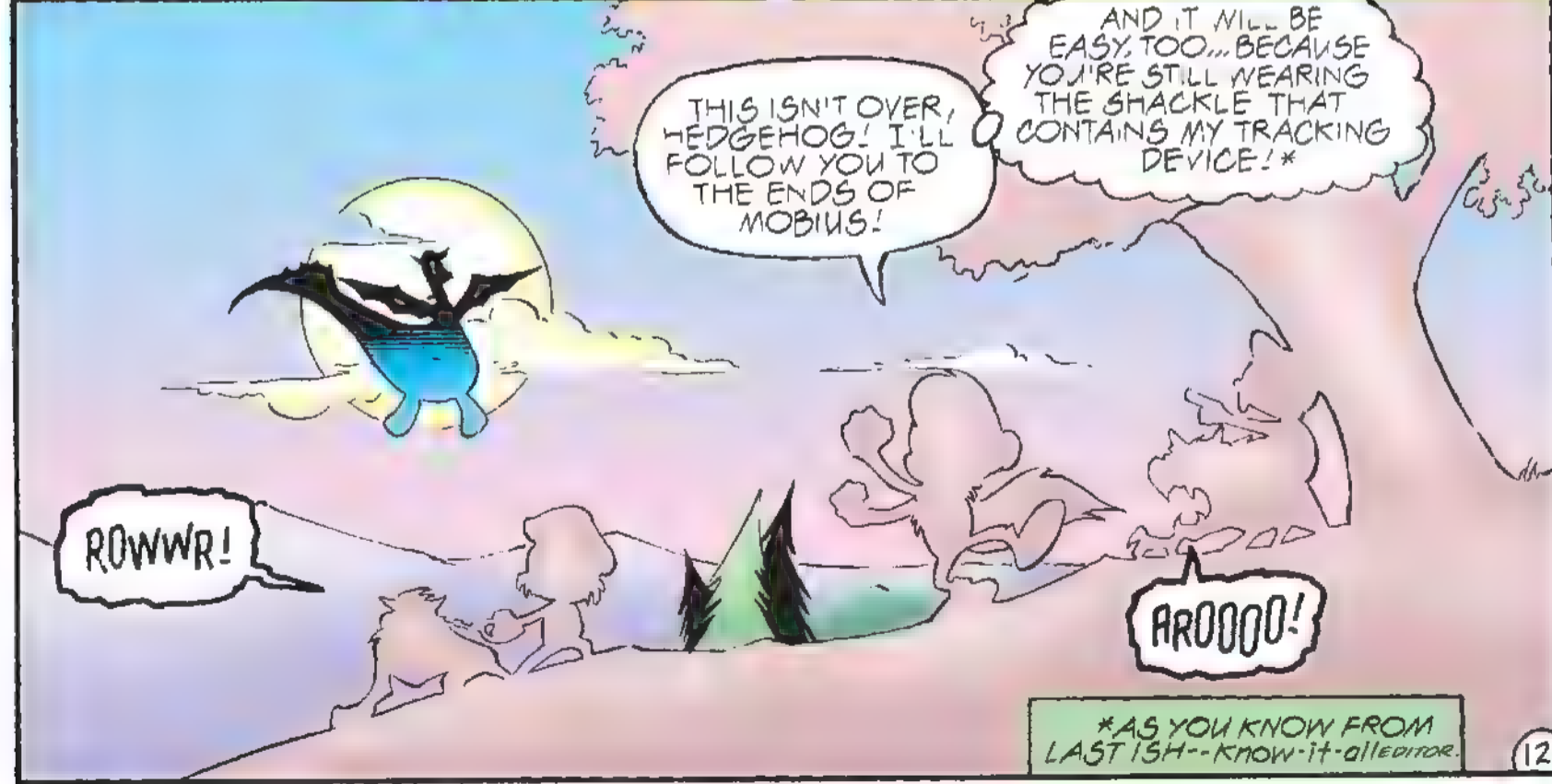
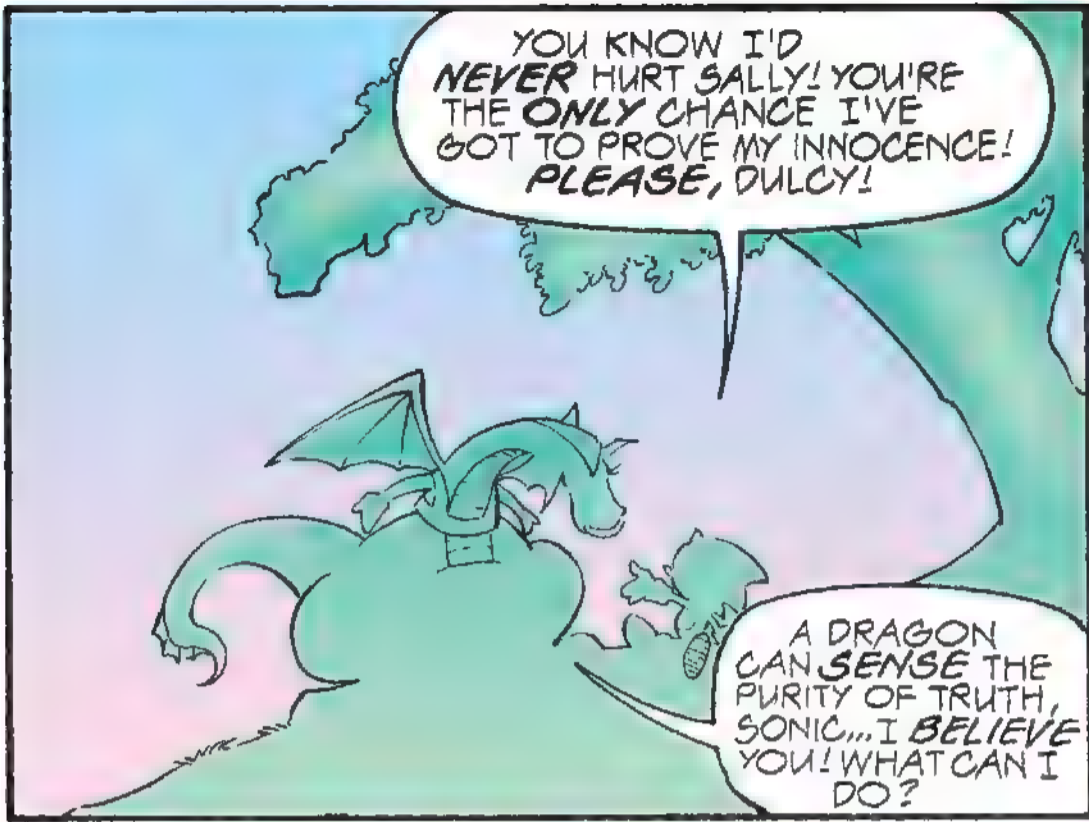
⋮Sigh⋮ YES, MR. SNIVELY...



VIBRATING HIS VOCAL CHORDS AT A SPEED UNATTAINABLE BY ANY OTHER LIVING CREATURE, SONIC EMITS A HIGH-PITCHED WHISTLE--

ONE THAT CAN ONLY BE HEARD BY...







MEANWHILE IN
HERSHEY'S
COTTAGE...

THIS IS
HORRIBLE!



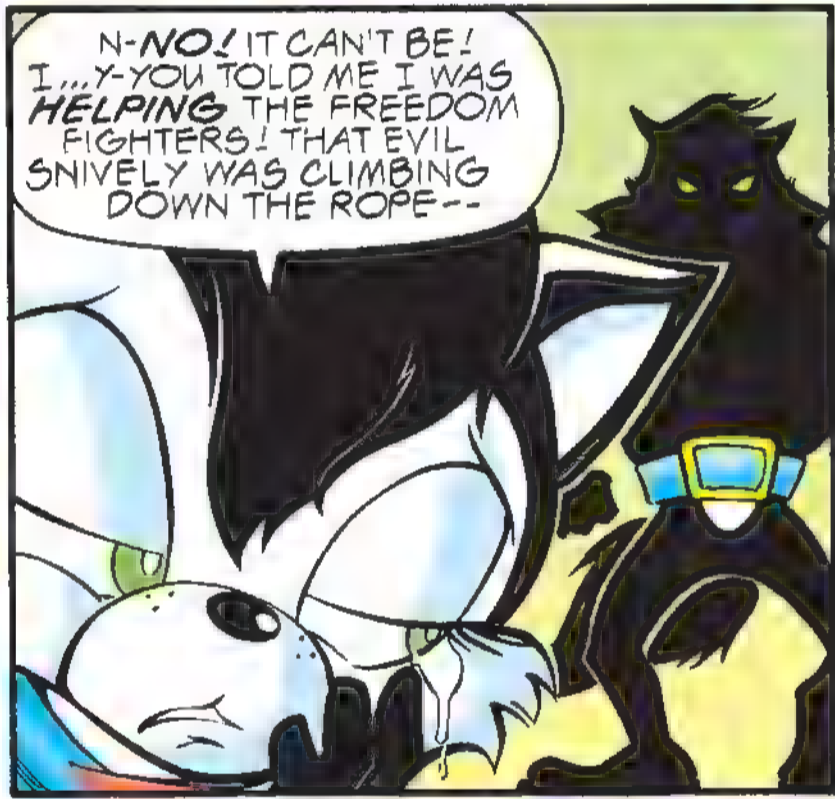
AH, YOU'LL MAKE
A FINE LOOKING DUKE
OF MOBIUS, DRAGO
MY BOY!

DID YOU
HEAR ME? THE
PRINCESS WAS
KILLED!

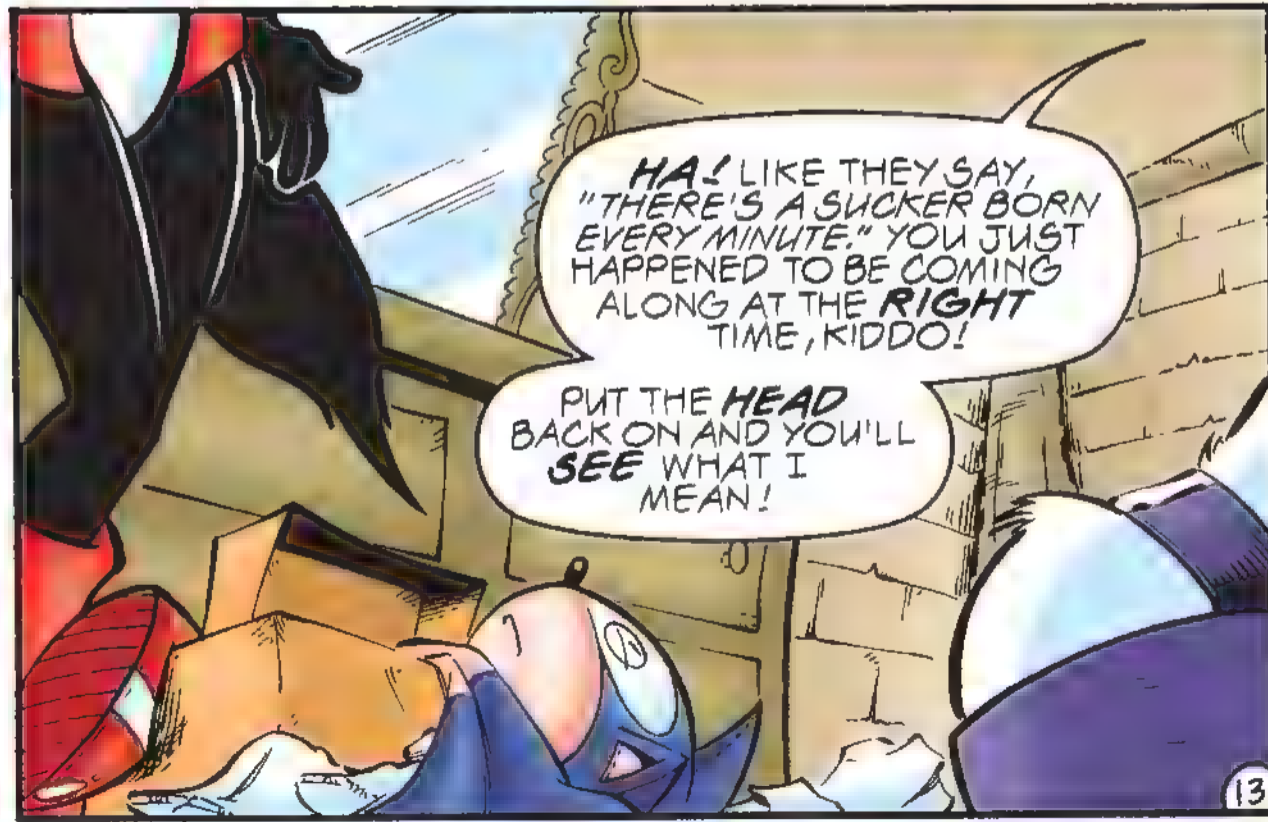
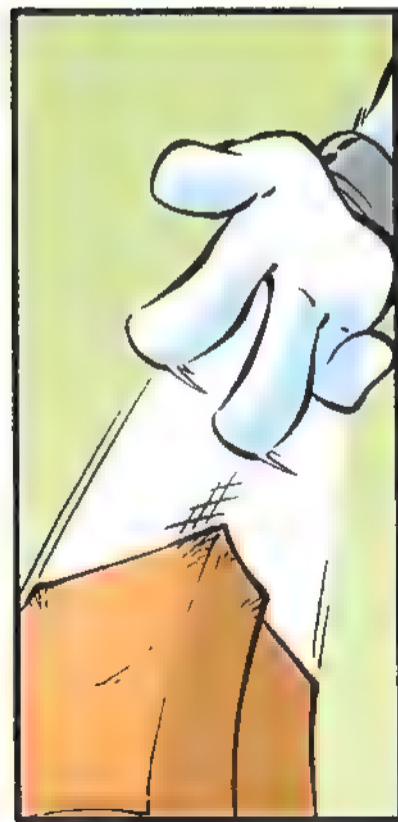


SLAP

THAT'S RIGHT,
TOOTS! AND YOU'RE
THE ONE WHO
DID IT!

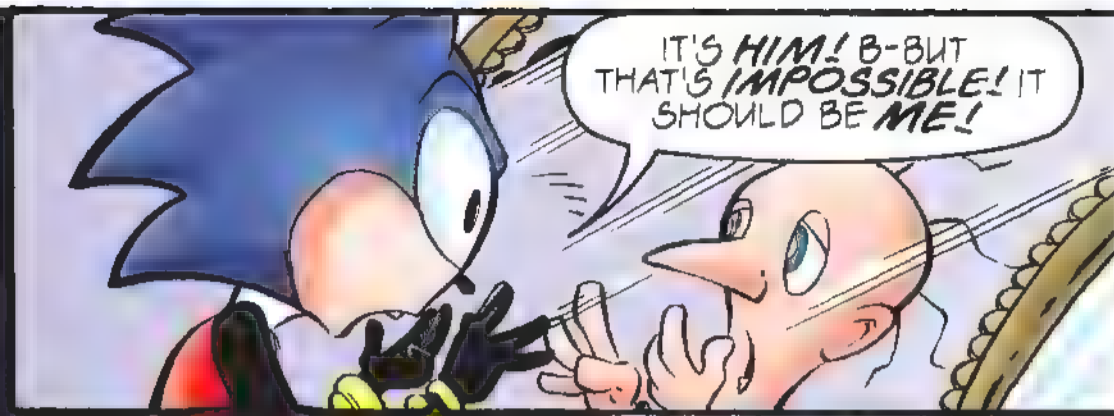


N-NO! IT CAN'T BE!
I...Y-YOU TOLD ME I WAS
HELPING THE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS! THAT EVIL
SNIVELY WAS CLIMBING
DOWN THE ROPE--

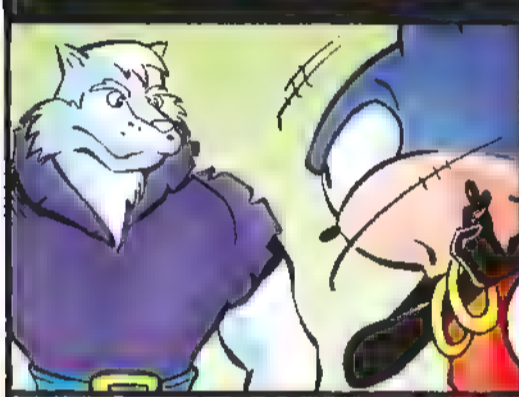


HA! LIKE THEY SAY,
"THERE'S A SUCKER BORN
EVERY MINUTE." YOU JUST
HAPPENED TO BE COMING
ALONG AT THE RIGHT
TIME, KIDDO!

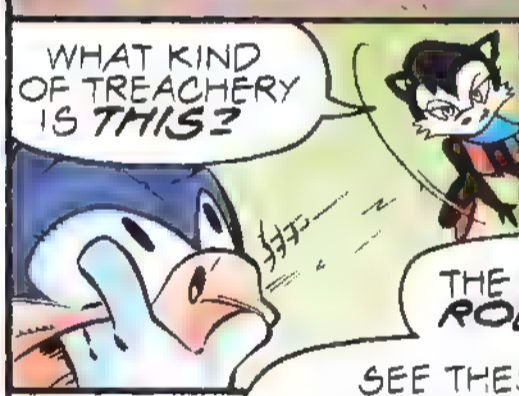
PUT THE HEAD
BACK ON AND YOU'LL
SEE WHAT I
MEAN!



IT'S HIM! B-BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! IT SHOULD BE ME!



AND YOU LOOK LIKE HIM, TOO! WHAT'S GOING ON?!



WHAT KIND OF TREACHERY IS THIS?



THE BEST KIND-- ROBOTNIK'S!

SEE THESE EYEPieces? THEY CONTAIN OPTIC IMAGE REFRACTORS. NO MATTER WHO YOU LOOK AT, IT APPEARS TO BE SNIVELY!
SO WHEN YOU CUT THE ROPE YOU THOUGHT SNIVELY WAS DANGLING FROM, YOU REALLY DROPPED PRINCESS SALLY TO HER DEATH!

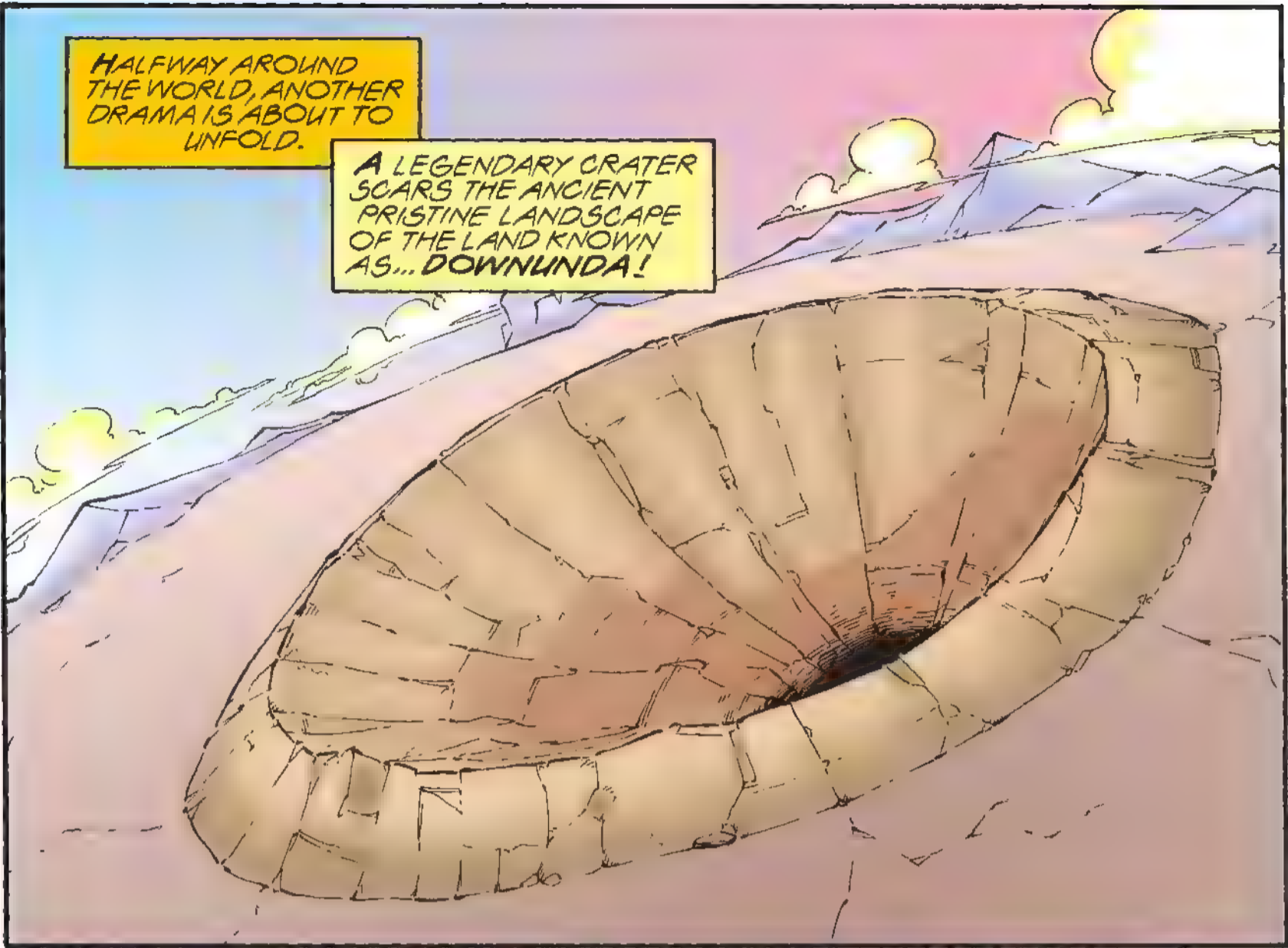
HAHAHAHA! YOU WERE EASY TO DUPE, SUGAR! AND NOW ROBOTNIK WILL REWARD ME WITH A KINGDOM OF MY OWN WHEN HE TAKES OVER MOBIUS!



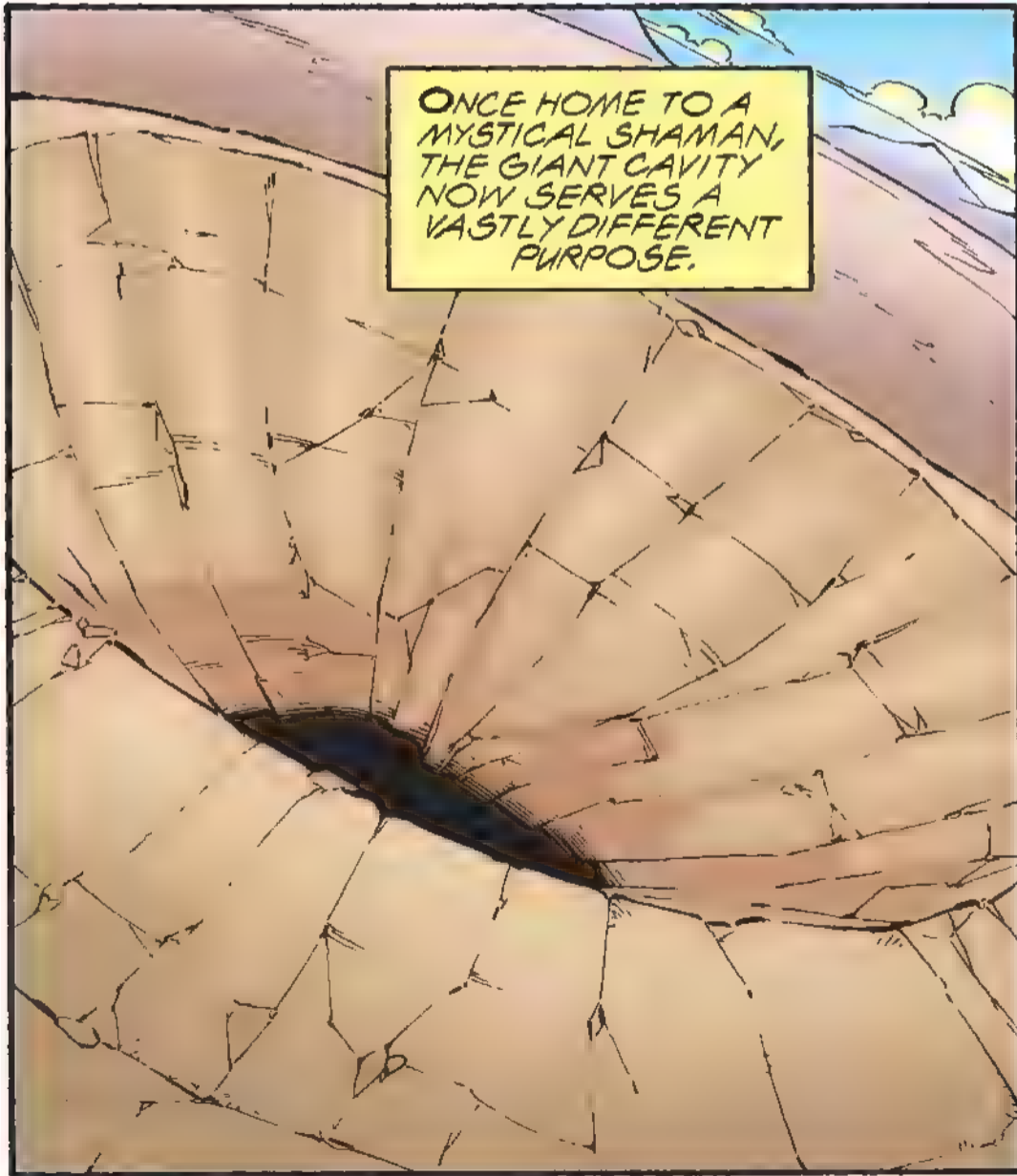
~choke~ NO-HO-HO-HOOOO...

HALFWAY AROUND
THE WORLD, ANOTHER
DRAMA IS ABOUT TO
UNFOLD.

A LEGENDARY CRATER
SCARS THE ANCIENT
PRISTINE LANDSCAPE
OF THE LAND KNOWN
AS... DOWNUNDA!



ONCE HOME TO A
MYSTICAL SHAMAN,
THE GIANT CAVITY
NOW SERVES A
VASTLY DIFFERENT
PURPOSE.



ONE THAT REEKS
OF SUFFERING,
DESPAIR AND
PALPABLE
MALEVOLENCE!

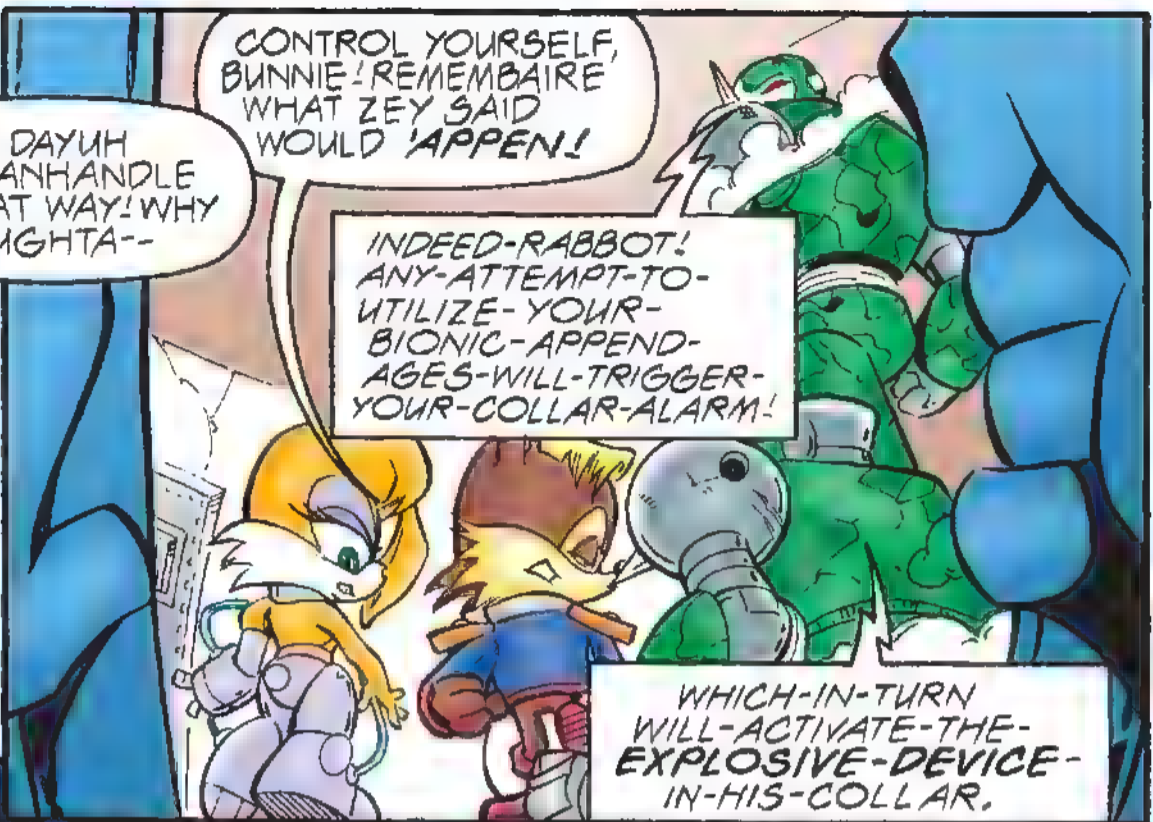


MOVE--
QUICKLY!



HURRY-IT-UP!

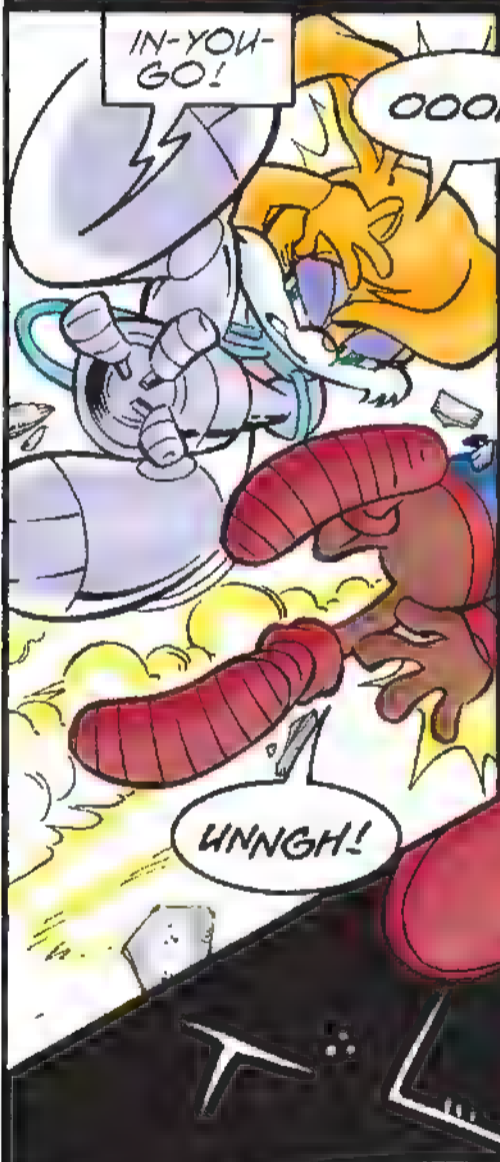
HOW DAYUH YOU MANHANDLE ME THAT WAY! WHY I OUGHTA--



CONTROL YOURSELF, BUNNIE! REMEMBAIRE' WHAT ZEY SAID WOULD 'APPEN!

INDEED-RABBOT! ANY-ATTEMPT-TO-UTILIZE-YOUR-BIONIC-APPEND-AGES-WILL-TRIGGER-YOUR-COLLAR-ALARM!

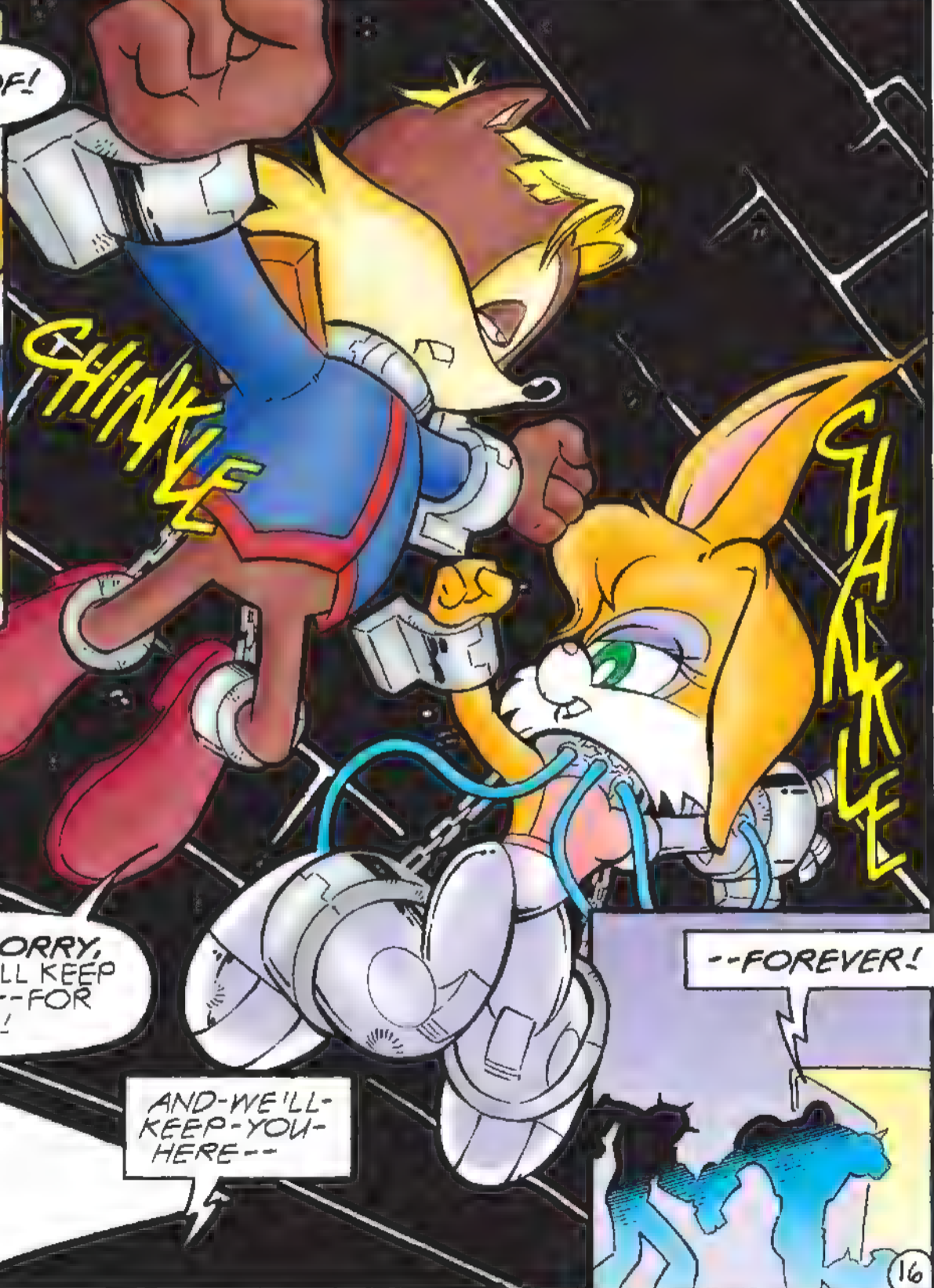
WHICH-IN-TURN WILL-ACTIVATE-THE-EXPLOSIVE-DEVICE-IN-HIS-COLLAR.



IN-YOU-GO!

OOOF!

UNNGH!



DON'T WORRY, SUGAH... AH'LL KEEP MAH COOL--FOR NOW!

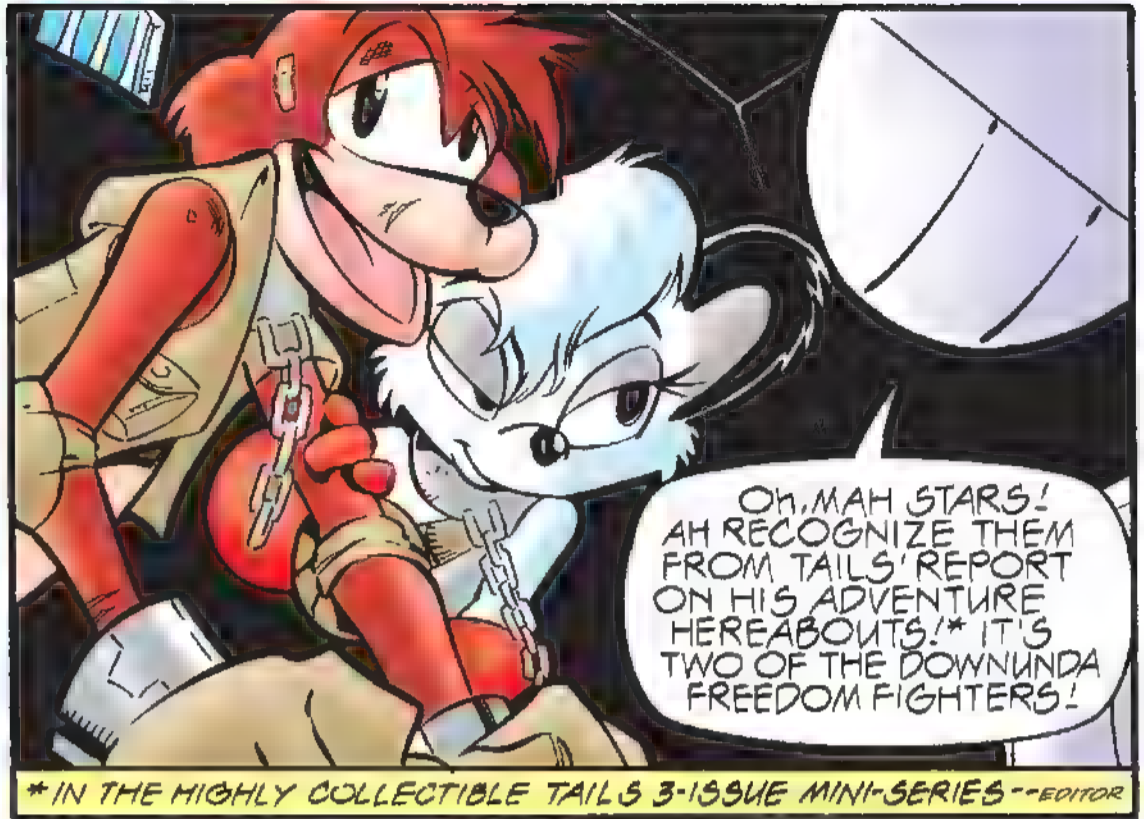
AND-WE'LL-KEEP-YOU-HERE--

--FOREVER!





ALORS!
SOMEONE
EE'S COMING
TOWARDS
US!



OH, MAH STARS!
AH RECOGNIZE THEM
FROM TAILS' REPORT
ON HIS ADVENTURE
HEREABOUTS! * IT'S
TWO OF THE DOWNUNDA
FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

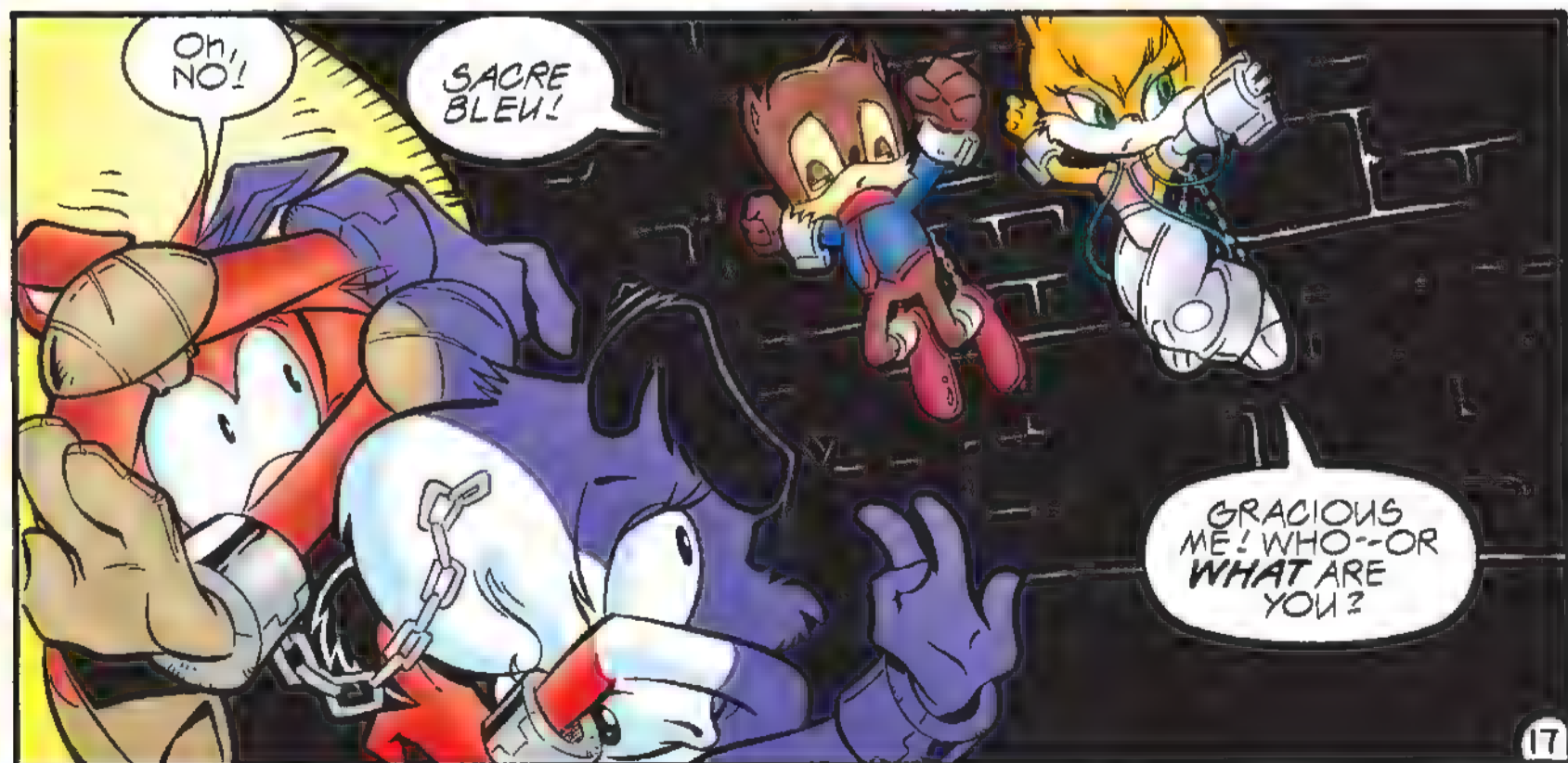
*IN THE HIGHLY COLLECTIBLE TAILS 3-ISSUE MINI-SERIES--EDITOR



YES. :KOFF-
KOFF: I'M WALT
WALLABEE...



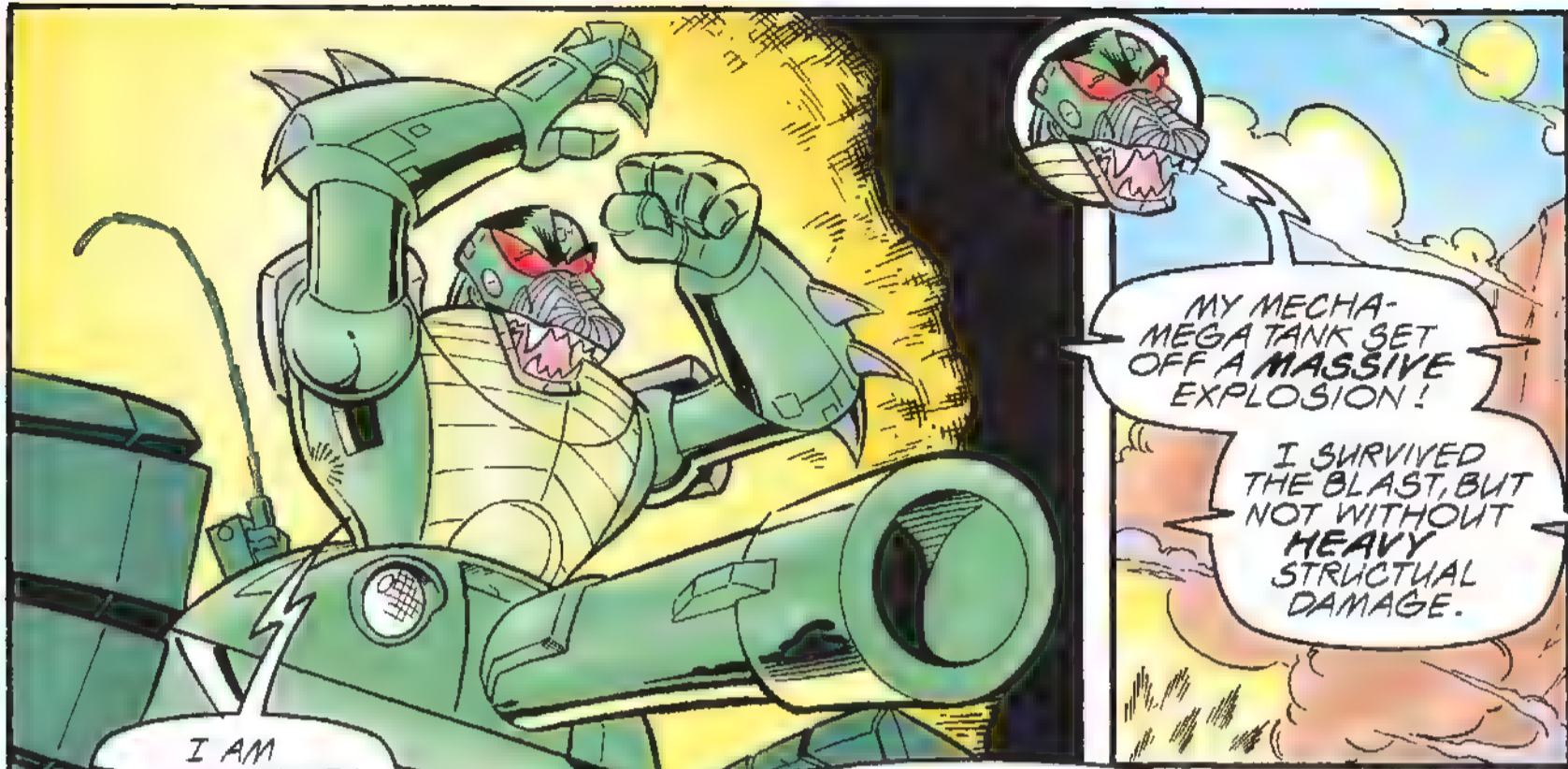
AND I'M **BARBY**
KOALA. WHEN THEY
BROUGHT YOU IN, DID
YOU SEE--



OH,
NO!

SACRE
BLEU!

GRACIOUS
ME! WHO--OR
WHAT ARE
YOU?



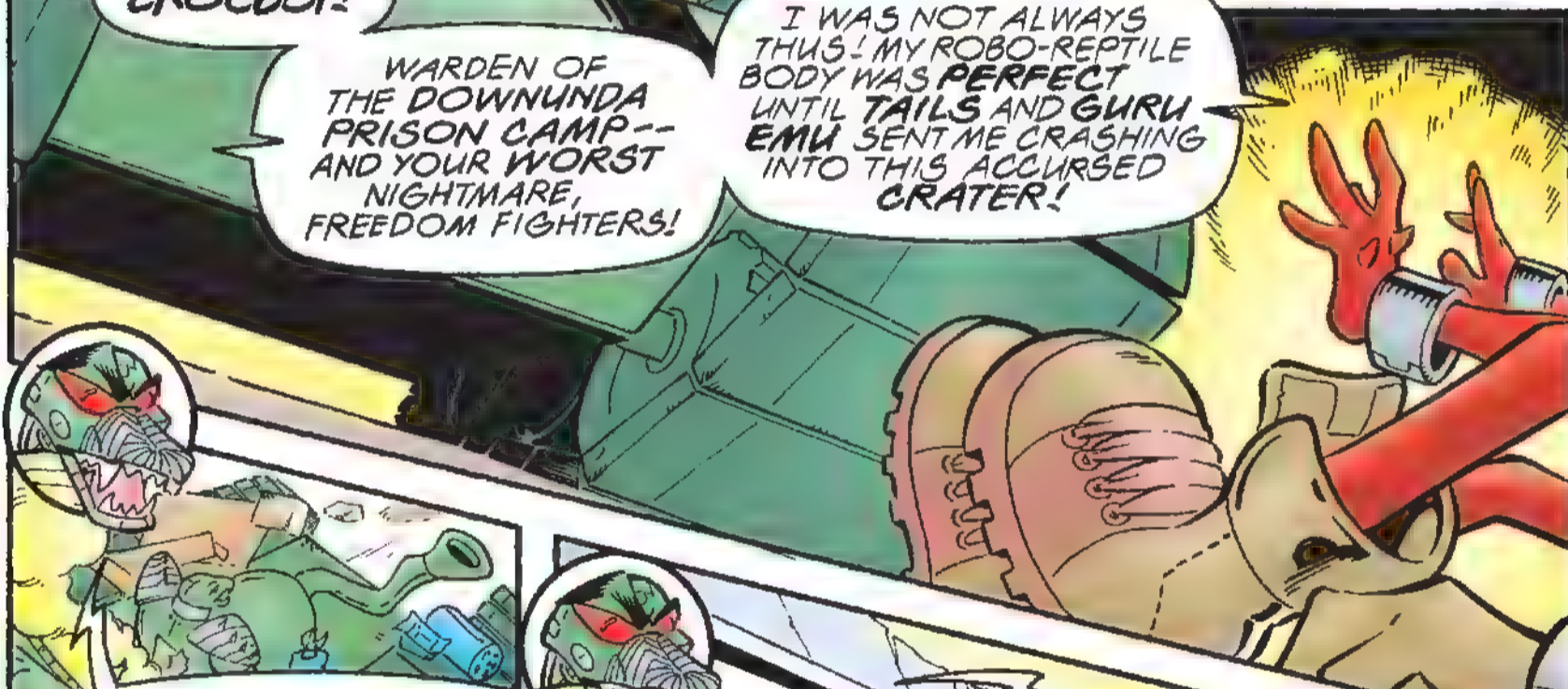
MY MECHA-MEGA TANK SET OFF A MASSIVE EXPLOSION!

I SURVIVED THE BLAST, BUT NOT WITHOUT HEAVY STRUCTURAL DAMAGE.

I AM CROCBOT!

WARDEN OF THE DOWNUNDA PRISON-- AND YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

I WAS NOT ALWAYS THIS! MY ROBO-REPTILE BODY WAS PERFECT UNTIL TAILS AND GURU EMU SENT ME CRASHING INTO THIS ACCURSED CRATER!



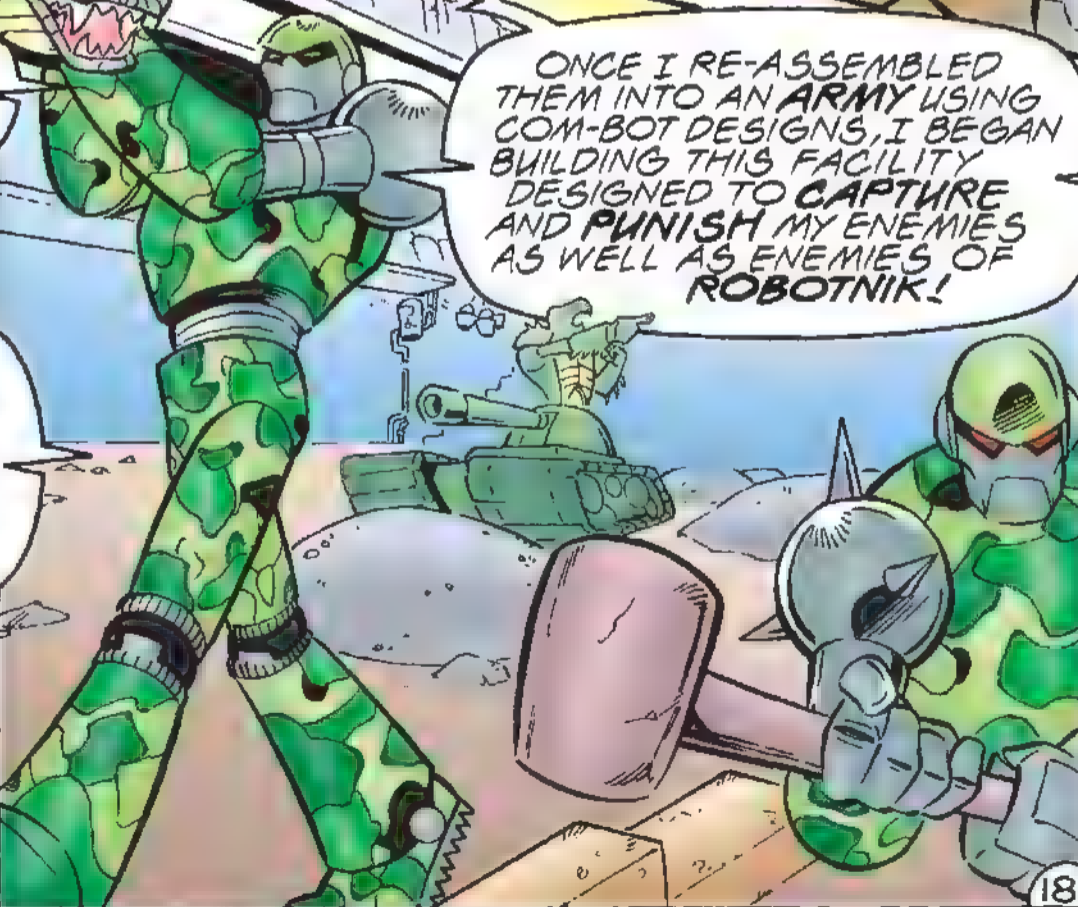
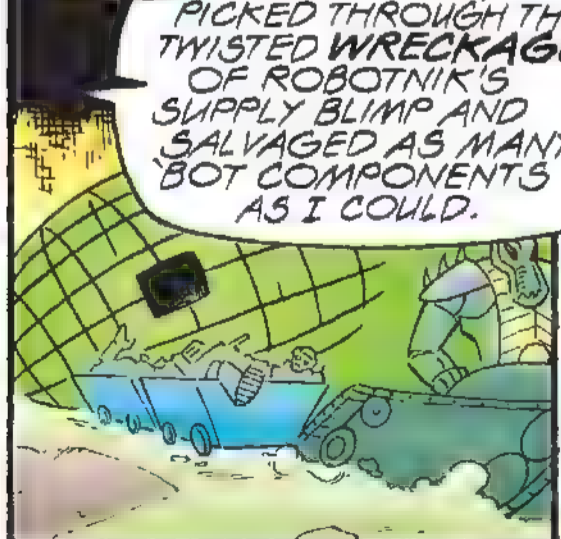
NEVERTHELESS, I RECONSTRUCTED MYSELF, USING WHAT FRAGMENTS I COULD FIND.



ONCE I RE-ASSEMBLED THEM INTO AN ARMY USING COM-BOT DESIGNS, I BEGAN BUILDING THIS FACILITY DESIGNED TO CAPTURE AND PUNISH MY ENEMIES AS WELL AS ENEMIES OF ROBOTNIK!



SOON AFTER, I PICKED THROUGH THE TWISTED WRECKAGE OF ROBOTNIK'S SUPPLY BLIMP AND SALVAGED AS MANY 'BOT COMPONENTS AS I COULD.





AT THE TOP OF MY LIST WERE THE DOWNUNDA FREEDOM FIGHTERS, WHOM WE SUCCESSFULLY AM-BUSHED AND CAPTURED!



I HAVE SINCE TAKEN GREAT DELIGHT IN TORTURING THEM MERCILESSLY!

A HOBBY OF MINE THAT YOU TWO WILL SOON GET TO EXPERIENCE FIRSTHAND!

MEANWHILE, FEEL FREE TO RUE THE DAY YOU EVER CROSSED PATHS WITH CROCBOT! HAW HAW HAW!

CIANG
EES THERE ANY CHANCE FOR ESCAPE OR RESCUE?

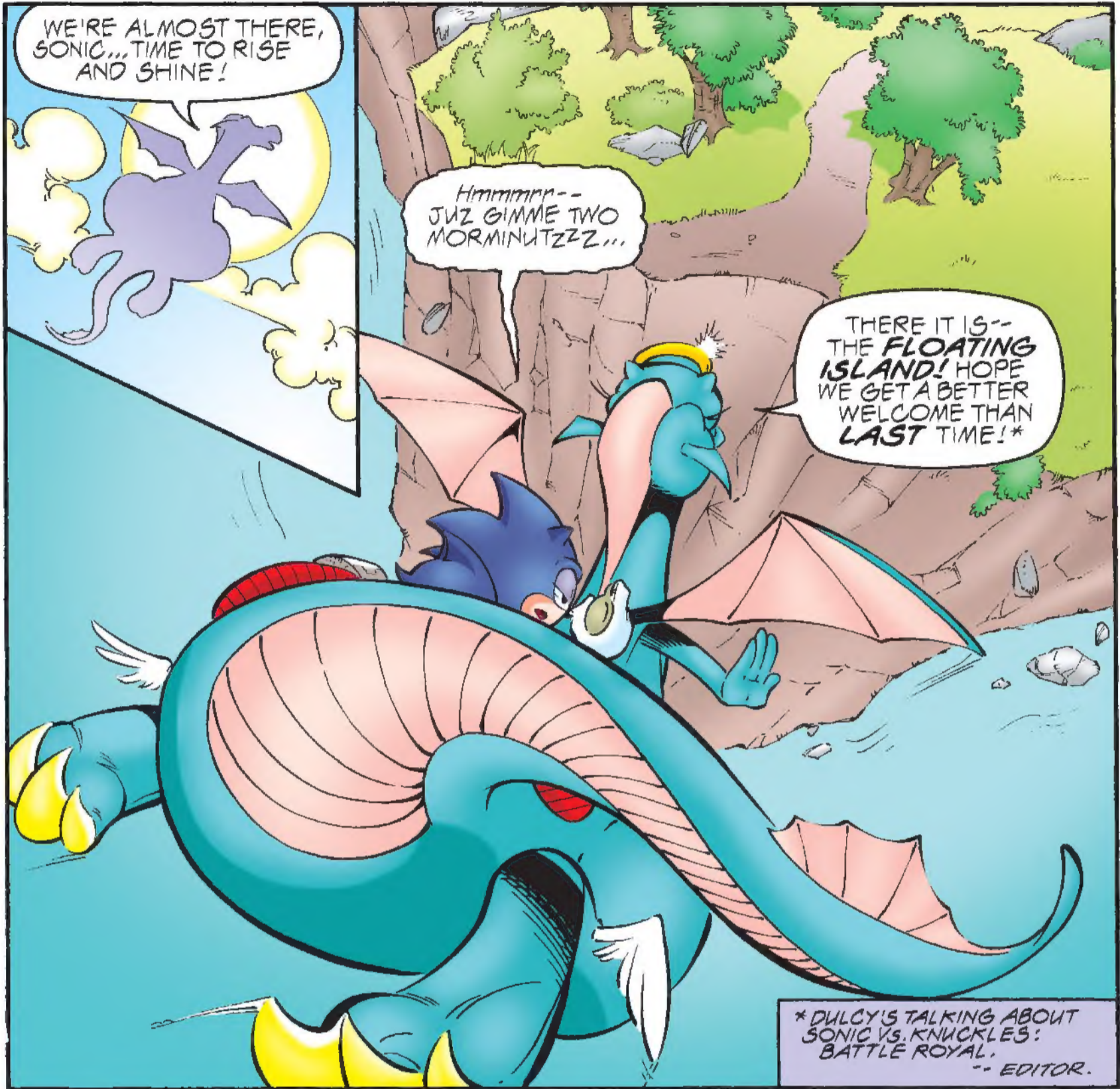
AND WHEN I SEND YOUR RAGGED REMAINS BACK TO YOUR FRIEND TAILS, I TRUST HE'LL COME BY FOR A VISIT. I OWE THAT FURRY FREAK BIG TIME!

I'M AFRAID NOT... THIS CAMP'S LOCATION IS TOP SECRET.

=:sniffle=: IT'S HOPELESS...

DON'T WORRY, SUGAH, WE'LL COME UP WITH A PLAN TO ESCAPE...

...AH HOPE!



* DULCY'S TALKING ABOUT SONIC VS. KNUCKLES: BATTLE ROYAL. -- EDITOR.



HUH? WHAT THE--?!

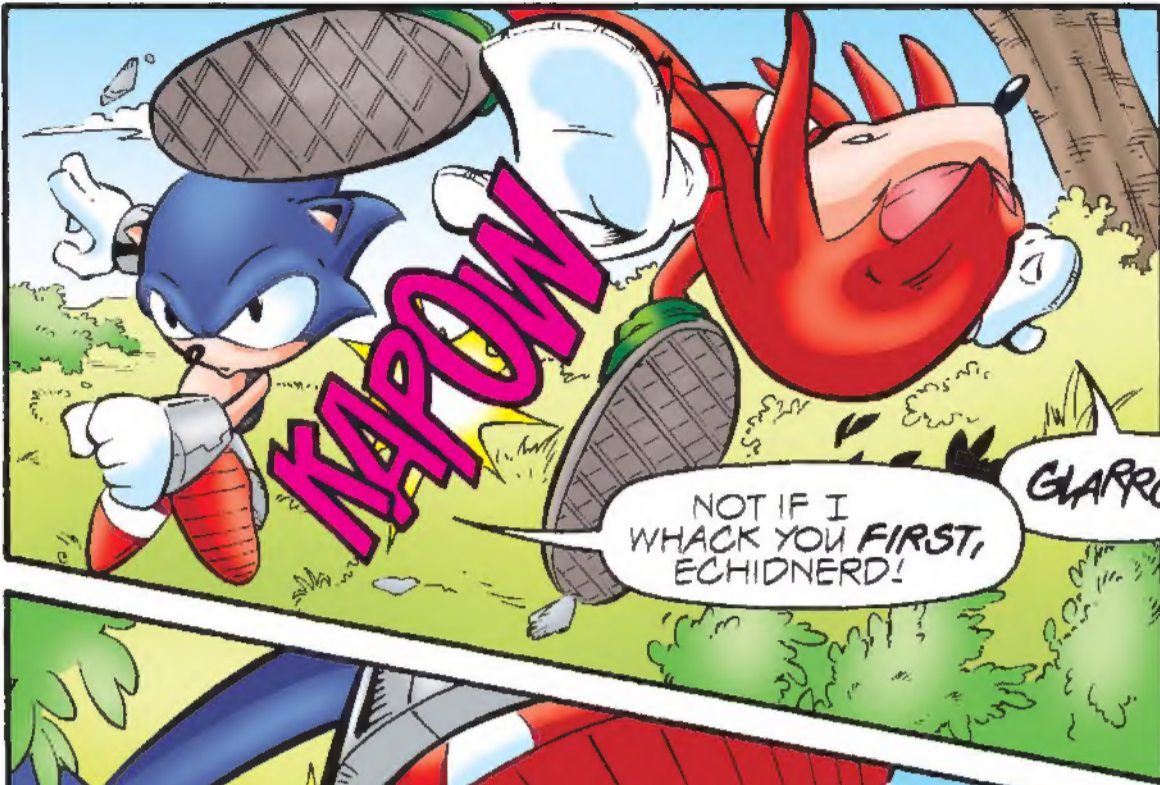
NO ONE VISITS THIS ISLAND WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF ITS GUARDIAN, KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!



WGGGH!

I MIGHT'VE KNOWN YOU'D ATTACK THE SWEETEST, MOST GENTLE CREATURE ON THE PLANET FOR NO REASON, BRAIN-DEAD REDHEAD!

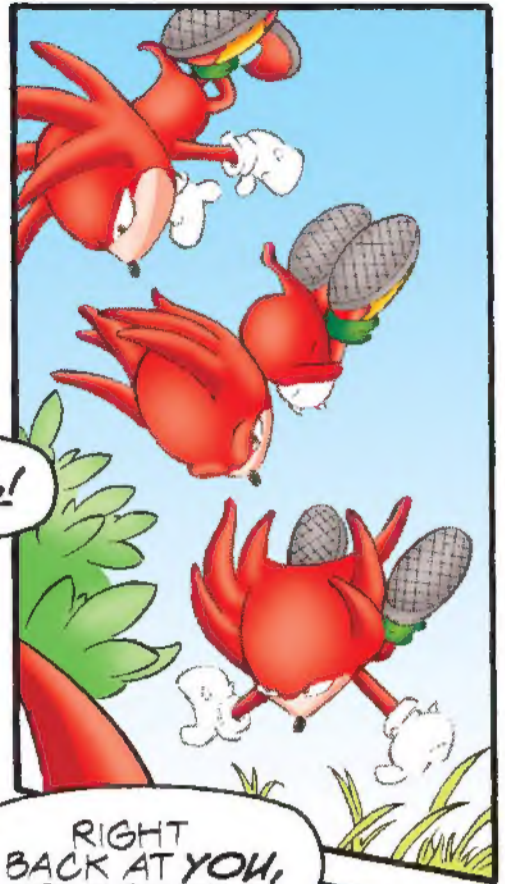
OH, YEAH--? WELL, YOU'RE NEXT!



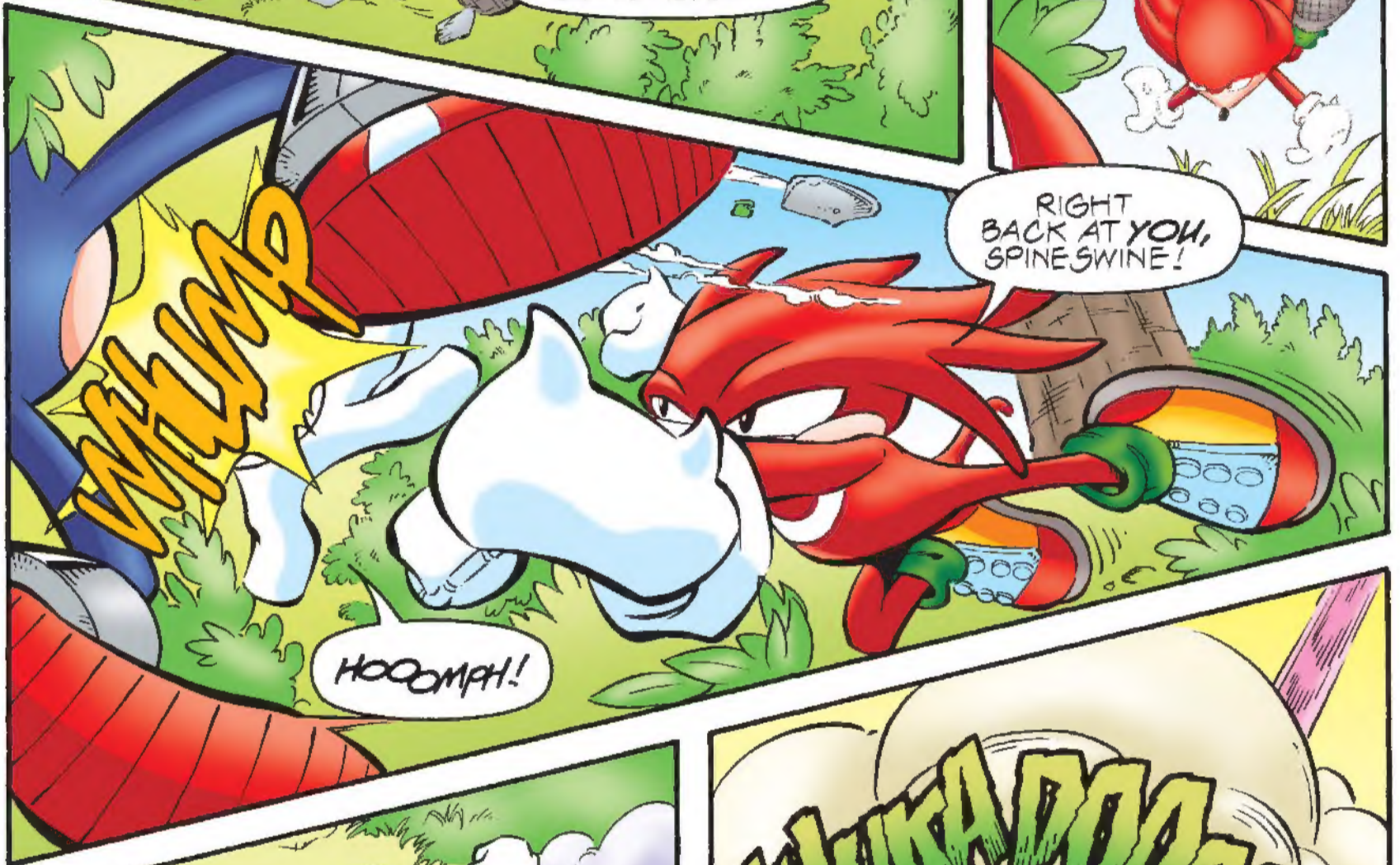
KAPON!

NOT IF I WHACK YOU **FIRST**, ECHIDNERD!

GLARRG!



RIGHT BACK AT YOU, SPINESWINE!



WHUMP!

HOOOMPH!



THAT DOES IT-- I'M GONNA HIT YOU **SO HARD**, IT'LL HURT YOUR **WHOLE FAMILY!**

BAH! I STEP OVER **PUNKS** LIKE YOU TO GET TO A **REAL FIGHT-- C'MON!**



CHUKA DOOON!

ESCAPE From The FLOATING ISLAND

BACK OFF, KNUCKLES!
IF ANYONE'S TAKING THE
HEDGEHOG DOWN, IT'LL
BE ME!

FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS,
HOLD ON TO YOUR HATS
AND PLACE YOUR BETS! IT'S
THE ULTIMATE THREE-WAY
BATTLE OF THE SEGA
CENTURY!

WHO'S GOING TO FIGHT
WHO? WILL ANY TWO
COMBATANTS JOIN FORCES
AGAINST THE OTHER?

AND DOES ANYONE KNOW
OR CARE THAT THE FATE
OF AN ENTIRE PLANET
HANGS BY A THREAD?

TO BE CONCLUDED IN
THE ACTION-PACKED,
PULSE-POUNDING,
NOT-TO-BE-BELIEVED
(OR MISSED)

SONIC 50

WHO--?

ST. JOHN!

Brought to you with pride by
script MIKE GALLAGHER & KEN PENDERS pencils SAM MAXWELL
inker PAM EKLUND letterer JEFF POWELL colorist KARL BOLLERS
editor J. FREDDY GABRIE mng. editor VICTOR GORELICK
editor-in-chief RICHARD GOLDWATER

SONIC PIN-UP

